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FEBRUARY 2021

THE WILDBROOKS MAGAZINE

THE PLIGHT OF THE (BUMBLE) BEE



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GUIDE

CONTENTS

Regulars

- Parish Letter 4
- Church new and Bible readings for the month 5
- Church news 7, 8, 9
- Letters to the Editor 9
- Amberley Parish Council meeting report 18
- Nature notes 30
- Recipe 30
- Amberley Climate Network 31
- Paws for Thought: more canine musings 33
- Editorial: Bee aware 34
- Local Information 35, 36
- Diversions 39
- Property Watch 40
- Tide timetable, Diversions answers 40
- At Your Service: Directory of Local Tradesmen & Services 41
- Parish Directory 42



Amberley's Nativity motorcade – p22-23



Advent Calendar windows - p8

People & Event News

11, 12, 13, 21, 22, 23

Reader Competition

Two signed copies of *Arundel: A Postman's View* to be won 20



2020 disappearing in the rear view mirror: our annual review of a year best forgotten – p24

Special Reports

- Coronavirus Covid-19 local update 14
- Lockdown Listings 16, 17
- That Was The Year That Was review 24

This month's front cover

The plight of the (bumble) bee – see page 31

Picture by Pam Keeble





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

Snowdrops and signs of spring

Amberley is well known for its snowdrops, and already they are peeping through in the vicarage garden. Yes, admittedly the confused primroses appeared before Christmas, but snowdrops even in the coldest month are an early promise that spring will come. How good it is to see those tiniest hopeful signs of new growth!

It's easy during this latest lockdown to feel we've gone full circle. Still the virus is with us, restricting our lives, enforcing isolation and raising anxiety levels in a way most of us have never known before. We shall not quickly forget 2020.

Yet it hasn't been a year entirely lost: new and positive things have developed during that time. I wonder what springs to your mind? Many of us have learnt new skills as we Zoom our way through meetings or keep in touch with family by WhatsApp. New technology has transformed our children's learning and many people's ways of working, as well as opening doors of communication for so many of us. Our church services have migrated when necessary to Facebook, YouTube and Zoom, and a weekly church email which keeps many of us in touch, started almost a year ago, is something I am sure will continue.

At home creativity has been expressed in new hobbies – and experimental lockdown styles! In our local communities networks of care have been strengthened and new ways found for so many things, including using the wonderful Amberley Village Stores and our local pubs and tearooms. Amberley has also become the new home for a number of people, and to those of you who have moved into the village during this sadly unsociable time: we look forward to meeting you properly before too long!

I hope we have learnt much about patience and resilience, being grateful for simple things and especially the natural beauty around us. The deadly virus has reminded us to treasure the things that really matter in life, our families and loved ones and all that feeds our souls. There is a long way to go, but there are hopeful signs and new things to be grateful for, including of course the Covid vaccination programme.

If we stop to count our blessings large or small we find many good things which bring sparks of joy amid the gloom. As a Christian I believe we have the best thing of all, the unfailing promise of God's presence and strength for each day, whatever the challenges it may bring.



The Revd Gerry Burgess

As we look for those new shoots appearing in our gardens may we also discover signs of new growth in our own lives. You may be into a new year diet or have good resolutions about fitness, making the most of your daily exercise. Perhaps you are taking positive steps to benefit your mental health at a time of year when it's easy to feel down, by keeping in touch with friends and limiting the amount of news or social media you engage with.

What about taking the opportunity of reflecting on spiritual growth during the coming weeks? Many of us have more time during lockdowns to think about the bigger issues of life and what it's all about. Or perhaps it's the pattern of a daily time

of quiet, meditation or prayer which can still our anxious thoughts.

This month sees the start of Lent, with Ash Wednesday on 17th February when we begin the reflective 40 days' journey towards Holy Week. We may well feel we've given up enough already over the past year, but we can take up something positive which may become a growth point for us. There are many Lent activities for all ages and tastes. One suggestion is to use a new little booklet of daily reflections and prayers, *Live Lent: God's story, our story*. If you'd like a copy please get in touch. It will help us on our journey through the rest of winter towards the joys of spring and Easter.

Keep looking out for those signs of new growth – in nature and in our lives!

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



FEBRUARY BIBLE READINGS AND CHURCH NEWS

No church services at present

We are sorry that we do not feel it is wise to open our churches for in-person services at the moment. As soon as the situation improves we shall resume some services and make this known via the church e-mail and Listserve. St Michael's church remains open daily for private prayer and we will respond to any requests for prayer.

Should they be needed, funerals and burials of ashes may still go ahead: please feel free to contact Gerry.

We continue to livestream a service each Sunday which can be accessed live on our Wildbrooks Churches Facebook page and afterwards on the Wildbrooks Churches YouTube channel. Details are in the weekly church email. Please contact Gerry or a churchwarden to be added to the list.

A verse for this year:

Rejoice in hope; be patient in tribulation; be faithful in prayer. (Romans 12.12)

This easy-to-remember verse is one I have suggested to our churches as a theme for this year. You may like to adopt it, too.

- Remember what gives us hope, lift your eyes to what brings joy.
- Keep pressing on with fortitude through troubled times: they will end.
- Don't forget to talk to God about how you feel and what is going on.



A free phone line of hymns,
reflections and prayers

A phone line has been set up for those who prefer to stick with more familiar technology. *Daily Hope* offers a message from the Archbishop of Canterbury followed by options such as topical hymns, reflections and prayers for each day.

Bible readings and prayers

If you would like a copy of the Lent booklet with a reflection and prayer for each day, *Live Lent: God's story, our story* please get in touch with Gerry (01798 831600).

Sunday, 7th February

Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-11 Mark 1:29-39

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person,

that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 14th February

2 Corinthians 4.5-10 Psalm 50.1-6 Mark 9:2-9

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Wednesday, 17th February Ash Wednesday (LENT begins)

Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 51:1-17 Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Holy God, our lives are laid open before you: rescue us from the chaos of sin and through the death of your Son bring us healing and make us whole in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 21st February

Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-10 Mark 1:9-15

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 28th February

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:23-31 Mark 8:31-38

Almighty God, by the prayer and discipline of Lent may we enter into the mystery of Christ's sufferings, and by following in his Way come to share in his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday, 7th March

Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord.

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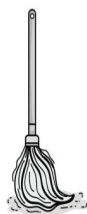
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A Christmas like no other...

Planning our church services and events for Christmas 2020 was filled with uncertainty: what could we do? What would be permitted – and safe? We were determined to do what we could to enable people to celebrate together with confidence at our churches. Risk assessments were written, guidance and regulations from government and Church of England checked and rechecked as last-minute updates were issued. Our plans took shape with a mix of services in church and outdoors which we hoped would accommodate most people's wishes and concerns.

We were delighted to welcome so many people safely at small scale services in church, including a shortened carol service at Amberley with a small choir. This and other Christmas services also went out online for those not venturing to church in person. On Christmas morning we had a 'hybrid' service at Parham – traditional Christmas Communion in church with an additional outdoor congregation in the winter sunshine beyond the doors.

New this year, and perhaps to be repeated, were 'Carols in the churchyard' services at Amberley, at Greatham on Christmas morning and after dark on Christmas Eve at Wiggonholt. What a joy to stand (socially distanced, naturally) to hear the Christmas story and sing those well-loved carols in the chilly air! The Crib Blessing at North Stoke also moved into the churchyard this year, with the crib created by much missed Elizabeth Butler beautifully lit and adorned with foliage.

The Christmas Eve Journey to the Crib could not draw a crowd up Church Street this year, but long after the motorcade had swept past, there quietly in the stable at Drewitts were Mary, Joseph and the infant Jesus, a peaceful reminder of the good news of 'God with us'.

Things may have been very different as we met and exchanged distanced greetings through our face masks this year, but the Christmas 'tidings of comfort and joy' filled our hearts once again.



After all the wonderful Advent windows in Amberley and the Motorcade of characters from the Christmas story on December 24, Mary, Joseph and the infant Jesus came to rest in a stable in Drewitt's Farmyard.

The tableau was created by some of the St Michael's Parish Engagement Group (PEG), using props and materials re-purposed from previous years where possible, including the 'folk angels' from the previous year's Angel Festival. Amberley recycling again!

The backdrop depicting the animals in the stable was painted by Katie Ohno and has been used every year that we have Journeyed to the Crib – another recycled item which it is a pleasure to reuse as it brings back joyous memories of 'Journeys' gone by. Judging by the positive comments, those who visited this year's Crib Tableau seemed really to enjoy it.



A masked Valerie Myers (left), churchwarden at St Peter's, Parham and the church on Christmas morning where there was an outdoor service; and Robert Enlgelhart (right), churchwarden at Greatham, where there was also an outdoor service



Advent windows and festive illuminations

Unable to stage the popular Living Advent Calendar, when people open their doors to neighbours and other residents, Amberley had 23 decorated windows instead, with some imaginative designs and decorations. The event raised £590, with £387 going to Freedom from Torture (of which £184 was donated specifically to FFT), and £203 to the Trussell Trust, which supports a network of over 1,200 food bank centres to provide emergency food and compassionate, practical support to people in crisis.



Decorated windows, illuminations and the Garrity family's festive gate (right) in East Street





Helping struggling families

Family Support Work, the diocesan charity to which the Wildbrooks churches contributes, distributed more than 120 Christmas hampers to families throughout Sussex, with special treats to help them make the festive season a little more special.

"The presents for children were amazing and each child received handpicked gifts suitable for their age and interest," says Nikki Kerr, FSW's director of fundraising and marketing,

"For some families these were the only presents the children received, so thank you to all who so generously contributed to the hampers.

She went on to thank everyone for their support throughout 2020, particularly at harvest and Christmas, when we were astounded at the quantity of donations we received for our foodbank and Christmas presents.

"As we enter a further lockdown it is a challenging time for our families," says Nikki. "They are still suffering from the impact of last year's lockdown, and now that schools are closed again the worries about home-schooling have resurfaced, so our practitioners are doing as much as they can to support parents during this period.

"With the cold winter weather making outdoor activities difficult, we know that there are going to be difficult times ahead, but we are committed to doing all we can to prevent families from falling further into crisis."

From the church registers

Joan Payne, died December 7, 2020, aged 90, burial at Amberley (December 14)

Philip Mitchell, died September 21, 2020, aged 63, ashes buried at Parham (January 12)

Trevor Rose, died 2 January 2, 2021, aged 86, buried at Greatham (January 21)

Others

Joyce Smith, of Hurst Cottages, died November 26, 2020, aged 91

Bill Waymark, of Crossgates, died December 27, 2020, aged 90

December's work in numbers:

- 288 individual visits and 205 support calls with families supporting 48 grandparents, 336 parents and 421 children
- 22 supported meetings with other agencies carried out remotely
- Four online group sessions held
- 518 food deliveries made

If you know of a family which is struggling, whether financially or for other reasons, do urge them to contact FSW, or do so on their behalf if they give you permission.

Family Support Work (01273 832963); e-mail: admin@familysupportwork.org.uk

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A thank you from Basil

I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who sent Christmas cards and to all those who delivered mince pies and cakes during the festive season, all of which was very much appreciated.

Furthermore, I would like to thank all those who have helped to maintain the Millennium Green during the last year. The list includes Roger and Judy Agate, Mark and Nikki Brown, John Fryett, Michael Jackson and Sarah. And last, but by no means least, the four youngsters – Joe, Leighton, Leuen and Lucas – who cleaned out the ditch between the football field and the Millennium Green and who did a brilliant job. I think most people will agree that this community space has never looked better thanks to the efforts of these volunteers.

David Lyon generously donated grass seed to be sown around Val's memorial seat which we installed in October and I shall be eternally grateful to Sue Belgrave, whose idea the seat was in the first place. I hope people will sit there to enjoy a relaxing view of the Downs and remember Val, my wife for 36 years.

Finally, a somewhat belated happy new year to all my friends and neighbours who have been so supportive during the last year.

Basil Figg
Hurst Cottages, Amberley

A New Year Eve's feast

We wanted to express our appreciation to The Sportsman for a superb meal on New Year's Eve. What a treat. Thank you to Sophie and Lee and the delivery team for working on December 31. We loved every mouthful and it made our lockdown NYE very special.

Kate and Matthew Vittoria, Church Street, Amberley



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PEOPLE & EVENTS

Welcome...

James and **Lulu Peddar**, and children **Imogen**, **Katy** and **Rory**, who have moved into Lee's Orchard in East Street, Amberley, the former home of Reggie and Sophie Trench. Imogen and Katy are both attending Amberley Primary School, and Rory will join them in September.

Also to **Stephen** and **Melvyn Elston-Mondones** who are the new occupants of Culver Cottage, just off the High Street; to **Mandy** and **Andy Fay** who have taken up residence at The Malt House in Church Street; and **Mark** and **Sharon Waygood**, who will be shortly moving into Mountview in School Road. We wish them all every happiness in their new homes.

Congratulations...

To **Mike Adams** on celebrating his 87th birthday on January 23, and **James Tolson**, who turned 80 on January 10.

Also to **Peter Daughtrey**, who clocked up a record 1,050 walked miles last year, mainly on the Downs

And to 10-year-old **Barnaby Garrity** on his success in a Nike-sponsored competition, which earned him a place as a mascot for Liverpool Football Club in their game on January 17 against Manchester United.

Sadly, the game had to be played behind closed doors because of the pandemic restrictions and Barnaby had to be content with an appearance in the digital programme and his name in lights flashed around the ground via the pitch-

side advertising display. The prize also included a box of goodies from the club with a signed letter from captain Jordan Henderson, a certificate, the new LFC kit and a water bottle.

Barnaby, previously a pupil at Amberley Primary School before starting at Brighton College Prep School in September, is football mad. He plays with Worthing Dynamos and was named Player of the Year trophy last season – one of the trophies he is pictured here with along with his coach Kevin Hills. Well done, Barnaby. For the record, the match against Manchester United ended in a goal-less draw.



Soccer success: Barnaby, with his Player of the Year trophy, and coach Kevin Hills of Worthing Dynamos

Our best wishes...

To **Caroline Seaton**, of Amberley Pottery, who is recovering from a broken hip following a fall. And to **Rosie Butler** who is also recovering from a fall.

Our condolences...

To **Katie Ohno**, whose father, **Sir Brian Urquhart**, has died, aged 101. Katie, who moved from Gastons, just off Church Street, last year, was the daughter of Sir Brian and Alfreda Huntington, whose family lived at Amberley House. Sir Brian, in a two-page *Times* obituary was described as an "unflappable international civil servant who warned against Arnhem, helped to liberate Belsen and set up the UN peacekeeping force". He came to be seen as the personal embodiment of UN peacekeeping, and from 1974 until his retirement in 1986 he was formally in charge of it, as under secretary-general for "special political affairs".

To the **Lock family**, on the loss of **Phil**, who died in St Richard's Hospital on January 24.

Also to **Audrey Rose** on the loss of husband **Trevor**. The couple celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary on October 15 last year.

Primary promotion

Do have a look at our lovely new video about Amberley Primary School, now available for viewing on the school website (www.amberley.w-sussex.sch.uk).

It features our Forest School and use of the outdoor classroom, the Nature Space, and shows what great outdoor learning facilities we have at Amberley. Of course, the village also features in the introduction!

Congratulations to **Paul Armitage**, head of school, for organising this and to **Su Cork**, **Rebecca Westwood** and the children for starring in the video.

Ray Jackson
Chair of Governors

A modest increase...

Amberley Parish Council agreed an increase of a fraction over one per cent for the 2021/22 precept. The amount per household (based on Band D) will increase from £85.95 to £86.91 per annum, up by just 1.12% per cent on 2020/21.

- Report on the January parish council meeting on p18

Station improvements

The waiting room on the London-bound platform at Amberley station has been refurbished and additional seating provided on both platforms. A canopy is to be added to the ticket vending machine and some landscaping is also planned.



Joyce Smith, 1929-2020

Joyce Smith, who has died aged 91 and was a resident of Hurst Cottages for more than 40 years, had been a successful breeder of Arabian horses and a leading light in the south east group of the Arab Horse Society.

Born in Birmingham, she was the youngest of three children in the Watkins family who were evacuated during the Second World War to the safety of the Shropshire countryside, near Ludlow.

Aged about ten, Joyce helped out on a local farm, tending to the horses. On one occasion, her parents who were visiting the children and sitting in a local tea shop, saw a horse gallop past the window with a small person clinging on for dear life – their youngest daughter. The horse had bolted but Joyce managed to stay on and, by all accounts, was quite unfazed by the drama.

Not only did she have no fear of horses, but developed a special affinity with them, which would prove a great help in her future career.



As well as horses, Joyce loved children and having completed her education, became a nursery school teacher.

Like her elder brother and sister she was an accomplished ballroom dancer, and the three of them were in much demand as partners at the local dance hall on a Saturday night. It was at a

dance that Joyce met Freddie Smith, a handsome sailor in the merchant navy, and they were subsequently married in September 1952.

The couple would have loved a family of their own but that was not to be, and they decided on a new start. They moved south from Birmingham to Surrey where Freddie continued a career as an artist, and he and Joyce began keeping and breeding horses. As their knowledge and expertise increased, they were successfully breeding Arabian horses at The Impney stud at Handcross and later relocated to Toat Farm, Pulborough.

Their business went from strength to strength and they produced many champions over the years. Joyce was invited to show their horses at Buckingham Palace, where she had the pleasure of meeting the Queen.

It came as no surprise when Joyce was invited to become a judge for the South East Arabian Horse Group and later went on to qualify as an International B list judge for the European Conference of Arab Horse Organisations. She



Joyce, with her husband Freddie, with three of their Arabian horses

was well respected as a judge and generous in sharing her wealth of knowledge and expertise to many, offered with a kind and warm heart.

Joyce was widowed in 2006 after 54 years of happy marriage. She kept her horses for as long as she could, helped out by her dear friends, and still carried out some judging duties. Her long career culminated in her being elected president of the Southern Arabian Horse Society in 2015.

Joyce always said how lucky she was having had such a wonderful life and according to her niece, Gillie Miles, she was a loving and generous aunt.

The funeral took place at Worthing Crematorium on December 8.

William (Bill) Waymark, 1930-2020

Bill Waymark, who has died aged 90, lived and worked most of his life in North Stoke, moving to Crossgates about 17 years ago following his retirement.

He was the third child – the elder of a twin – of four children of Charles and Harriett Waymark, who were living in East Dean. The family then moved to 285 Canada Cottages on the Downs above North Stoke where his father was the shepherd.



Bill attended school in Arundel – a roundtrip of around six miles. On completing his education, he went to work at North Stoke Farm as a cowman for Reg Pitts at the now derelict Canada dairy

unit until a new dairy was built at North Stoke.

He left the farm to work at Peppers Chalkpit before doing his National Service, based mainly in Egypt and Israel.

On his return he married Barbara Richardson, who he first met in Arundel, in 1954. Bill went back to the farm at North Stoke where he worked as a tractor driver and gen-

eral farm hand, enjoying the countryside and appreciating country ways, which he did throughout his life.

The couple had three sons – Stephen, Paul and Nicholas – and the family continued to live at North Stoke, with Bill working for Mr Pitts and, from 1974, for David Lock.

Bill and Barbara remained there for a few more years after his retirement, finally moving to a smaller property at Crossgates in 2003. He continued to look after his own garden, which he loved, and gardened for others locally until comparatively recently when it became too much for him physically.

He was a kind, gentle man who kept himself to himself but would help anyone whenever he could.

The family would like to extend their gratitude to his neighbours, in particular Rosie Payne and Wendy and Sandy Guthrie, who kept an eye on him in recent years.

Colourful coasters

Wendy Guthrie, of Wildhanger, East Street, Amberley, raised £170 for the Brain Tumour Charity by making coasters out of Mexican tiles. It was in memory of her mother, Angela Jupp (nee Marten), who was born and raised in Amberley and died three years ago.



Malawi pop-up stall raise £560 for school's project

On a crisp, sunny pre-lockdown December morning, a pop-up stall raised £560 for the Malawi School's Project, which is supported by Amberley. The sum will be sufficient to pay school fees for all the bursary students for next term, with a little to spare.

"Thank you to all those who so kindly came to look at our wares – lots of colourful fabric bags, purses, aprons, scarves and more," said Averil Sessions, who launched the project in Amberley about six years ago making a welcome return to the village.

"Thanks, too, to Geoff and Sandie at Stream Barn and to Nick and Sarah at Stream House for letting us take over their driveway, to Kayleigh and the team at the tea rooms for opening early, and to the trustees, especially Catherine Cunningham who masterminded the event, and Jeff and Jaxx Feakins and Mel Edge for their unfailing support. And, as always, to Amberley's residents for their generosity."

The project provides school buildings, cement, solar lamps, teacher training, uniforms for the children, exercise books and pens, books and even a bicycles a loan scheme for girls who live a long way from the school, and for whom the walk home, often in the dusk or dark, can be difficult.

Arts Society talks via Zoom

Members of the Arts Society West Sussex are continuing to enjoy monthly talks via Zoom. At 2pm on February 2, Nicholas Reed will be discussing Pissarro and his Artistic Family in London. The subject of the talk on March 2 by Giles Ramsay will be Oscar Wilde. A link will be sent to all members prior to the talks. Interested non-members are welcome, for a fee of £5. Contact Jackie Buckler on (01903) 411086 or email westsussex@theartsociety.org

Rail service suspension

Train services will be suspended along much of the Arun Valley line, as far as Three Bridges, for nine days during July.

Network Rail has given advance warning of engineering works planned for the line from Saturday, July 14 until Sunday, July 22. Services will also be suspended during the preceding and following weekends (July 17-18 and July 31-August 1). There will also be some follow up work during the weekends of September 4-5 and October 3. Replacement buses will be provided along with alternative route options.

- There are no timetable changes on the Arun Valley Line as a result of the latest lockdown. See rail timetable on page 36.



CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 NEWS

Helping to keep you safe

The Amberley Covid hub continues to meet weekly to discuss what information may be of help or guidance to the community, particularly with regard to the impact of any change of government guidelines. Understandably our focus recently has been on the vaccination process. The local vaccinations started at the Pulborough Medical Group and Storrington Glebe surgery just before the New Year. The Arundel surgery, which was not able to participate in the early Phase 1 activities, started calling patients towards the end of January. Vaccinations are being carried out at Bognor by the Regis Primary Care Group, of which the Arundel surgery is a member.

The hub continues to:

- Publish daily copies of the Gov.UK Covid advice
- Liaise with the hub coordinator of West Sussex Council, Horsham hub support and the Amberley Parish Council
- Update the Amberley Helpline website daily with Gov. UK Covid advice - with a special section with all the vaccination news
- Update the Amberley Helpline website daily with Covid new case charts:
 - o For local areas ie Amberley, Pulborough and Storrington and those local areas bordering Amberley
 - o For the local districts within West Sussex
 - o For the South Eastern counties

The hub also monitors local Covid cases, where these are communicated to the hub.

Finally, members of the hub continue to provide responses to questions from the community. The majority of these are direct medical questions which arrive at the desk of Richard Robinson.

Issued on behalf of the Amberley Help Hub

Cracking down on miscreants

Police in Sussex took enforcement action against those found to be blatantly breaching the government's Covid-19 regulations over the first weekend of the country's third national lockdown.

The force issued 45 Fixed Penalty Notices (fines) to people across the county who were found to have wilfully disregarded the rules.

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 fallback 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.

Officers were patrolling areas and communities, engaging with the public and where necessary urging people to do the right thing by following the restrictions; which are in place to save lives and protect the NHS.

Superintendent Julia Pope said: "We know this is an extremely difficult time for everyone, however the actions we take and the decisions we make now can help save lives.

"This pandemic has been ongoing for almost a year now, and so we are all familiar with what we should be doing to play our part in stopping the spread of the virus.

"We know the overwhelming majority of people in Sussex are doing the right thing by staying home, wearing masks and social distancing, but unfortunately a small minority of people continue to ignore the rules.

"The restrictions are in place for a reason – any unnecessary contact is a possible link to a vulnerable person. Everyone has a responsibility to make the right decisions. It is disappointing that our officers have to take this enforcement action again this weekend against those who are still blatantly breaching the rules as if they do not apply to them.

"It's so important, now as much as ever, that we pull together and do what we need to do to protect our NHS and our communities from the virus."

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LOCKDOWN LISTINGS

Recommendations by residents on what to read and watch during the current lockdown. Compiled by Hazel Allinson

BOOKS

● **The Poisonwood Bible** by Barbara Kingsolver. Recommended by Sue Pheasey A missionary family, the Prices, moved in 1959 with their four daughters from the US state of Georgia to the village of Kilanga in the Belgian Congo. Each chapter is told in the first person by one of the daughters in turn.

● Thrillers by Lee Child and his hero Jack Reacher or legal dramas by John Grisham, both of whom write good page-turners. Recommended by Linda Connell.

● **Dissolution** by CJ Sansom. Recommended by Hazel Allinson. A series of seven large books written by this Sussex author set in the reign of Henry VIII. Shardlake is a commissioner for Lord Cromwell and is asked to go to a monastery to investigate the murder of the last commissioner who was there.

● **I am an Island** by Tasmin Calidas. Recommended by Sarita Greenham. True story. The author recounts her move from London to a Croft in Scotland.

RADIO

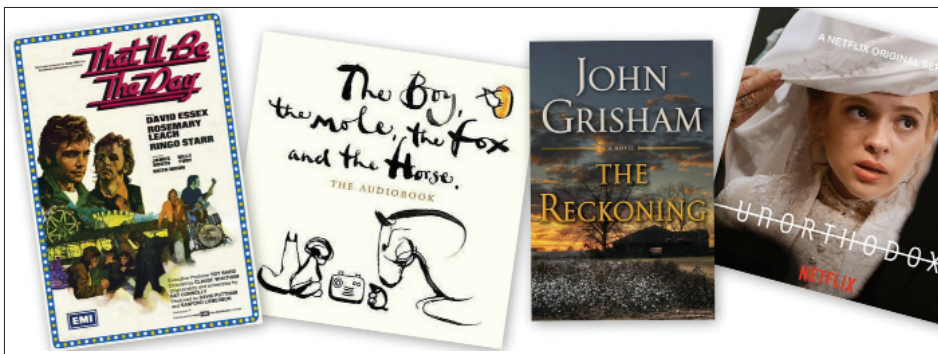
● On BBC Sounds www.bbc.co.uk/sounds **The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse**. Recommended by Anna Corcoran. A tale of a boy on his journey through the countryside who meets a cake obsessed mole, a world weary fox and a wise horse that is told through the conversations of these four unlikely companions. Originally broadcast on Radio 4 this is a useful website containing on demand programmes from BBC radio including Barack Obama reading from his book *A Promised Land*.

FILMS & SERIES

● **Schitt's Creek** (Netflix). Recommended by Mike and Jan Wright This Canadian series follows the formerly wealthy Rose family's trials and tribulations. After Rose's business manager embezzles the family business, the family loses their fortune and relocates to Schitt's Creek, a small town they once purchased as a joke. "Watch a couple of episodes a night and cheer yourself up" say the Wrights.

● **The Nun's Story** (1959) (BBC iPlayer for 28 days) Starring Audrey Hepburn and Peter Finch. Recommended by Tim and Ros Simpson.

● **Call My Agent** (Netflix). Recommended by Anna Corcoran. A French sitcom with subtitles set in a Paris talent agency had a 2-page spread in the recent *Sunday Times* Culture supplement.



● **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society** (Netflix). Recommended by Antonia Morris-Warburton. Set in 1946, the plot follows a London-based writer who exchanges letters with a resident on the island of Guernsey, which had been under German occupation during World War II.

● **The Split** (BBC iPlayer). Recommended by Jeff and Jaxx Feakins. A leading divorce lawyer Hannah (Nicola Walker) finds business is personal when she leaves family firm for a rival.

● **Unorthodox** (Netflix). Recommended by Jeff and Jaxx Feakins. Inspired by Deborah Feldman's autobiography. Esty is living unhappily in an arranged marriage in an ultra-orthodox Hasidic Jewish community. She runs away to Berlin discovering life outside her community.

● **Virgin River** (Netflix). Recommended by Jeff and Jaxx Feakins. Searching for a fresh start a nurse practitioner moves from LA to a remote Californian town and is surprised by what and who she finds.

● **The Fall** (BBC iPlayer/Amazon Prime). Recommended by Jeff and Jaxx Feakins. Gillian Anderson starts as DSI Stella Gibson who is leading a case to catch a serial killer in Belfast.

● **The Queens Gambit** (Netflix). Recommended by Sarita Greenham. The story of a young chess champion. A beautiful visual seven-part series.

● **Puzzle** (Netflix). Recommended by Sarita Greenham. A gentle story of a woman's obsession with jigsaw puzzles.

● **Okja** (Netflix). Recommended by Sarita Greenham. Genetically engineered giant pigs are bred for the food market. Colourful and thought-provoking.

FILM RECOMMENDATIONS by Sandy Guthrie

In the podcast for Chichester Cinema at New Park, we have been making recommendations for films you can stream at home as there are no films to be shown at the cinema at the moment. My latest suggestions included a double bill. **That'll Be The Day** (1973) is the tale of a restless young man in the late 1950s who drops out. The lead is David Essex as Jim MacLaine, and his mentor is Mike, played by Ringo Starr. The feel for the period is good, and the music of the times was

LOCKDOWN LISTINGS




painstakingly assembled. Keith Moon and Billy Fury appear in it, too. It can be rented from Amazon, Google Play and YouTube for £2.49, or Apple TV and the Sky Store for £3.49.

The second part of the double bill is the sequel from 1974, **Stardust**, which follows Jim (Essex again) as he tries to make it in the music business of the '60s and early '70s. The character of Mike reappears as his road manager but apparently Ringo felt it was a little too close to home, and so this time Mike is played by Adam Faith. The music is great, with Keith Moon again and Dave Edmunds as a member of the band as well as the film's musical director.

It wasn't easy finding *Stardust* to watch. It is not the 2007 film of the same name and not the new David Bowie biopic out soon. I couldn't find it on Apple, and it took me a while to locate it on YouTube where you can rent it for £1.99. I eventually tracked it down there by searching for David Essex.

I remember seeing a very melodramatic Robert Mitchum film when I was a teenager. It is a sign of how long ago I watched it as I didn't know it was in colour. This film is **Second Chance** (1953), currently on the BBC iPlayer, with Mitchum as a prizefighter drifting from fight to fight in Mexico, and Linda Darnell as a gangster's moll trying to put her past behind her, while heavy Jack Palance is on her trail. Don't worry about the plot, the incidental music is completely over the top, and I loved every overcooked mouthful.

For more recommendations, and film clips, the podcast for Chichester Cinema at New Park can be found at www.chichestercinema.org. A quick way to find out which platform you can stream a film from is to go to www.justwatch.com.



The Man from Toronto, starring Jessie Matthews, was filmed in Amberley in 1932, and released the following year. It was last shown by the Amberley Society in 2016.

Beware doorstep scams

Advice from *Which?* on protecting against unwelcome callers

Be on your guard: always be suspicious of anyone turning up at the door uninvited – regardless of their story.

Put up a sign: place a sign in the window near your front door saying that uninvited callers are not welcome.

Keep your home secure: don't let any stranger into your home. Keep your doors locked with the chain on. Ask to see callers' ID cards and call the company to see if they are genuine. To be safe, look up the company number yourself rather than trust the number on their ID card. If you feel uncomfortable or have any doubts, don't let them in. Tell them you're not interested or that now is 'not convenient' and ask them to come back at a different time (when you can have a friend or relative with you).

Set up a utilities password: you can set up a password with your gas and electricity providers so that you can be sure callers (such as meter readers) are genuine – only genuine callers will be aware of your password. Call your utility company to arrange this. To activate the service they might need to put you on their Priority Services Register. This gives access to extra services if you're of pensionable age, are registered disabled, have a hearing or visual impairment, or have long-term ill health.

Nominate a neighbour: if you have a relative or friend who lives close by, ask if they'd mind being on standby in case you get any suspicious callers on the doorstep. Before letting a stranger into your house, give your neighbour a call and ask them to pop round. If you don't know anyone nearby, contact your local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme to find out if they can help. A genuine caller will return at a prearranged time when you're able to have someone else in your home with you.

Consider smart security devices: smart doorbells incorporate a camera and can enable you to speak to a caller without opening the door; some can also send a message to a relative notifying them that you have a visitor.

Take a photo: if you're suspicious, ask the caller if you can take their photo on your mobile phone. Then send it to a close friend or relative. If the caller is genuine, they probably won't mind.

Call the police: if a caller is really persistent and refuses to leave, you can call 999. If you are suspicious, but not in immediate danger, call 101 – the police non-emergency number.

● Subscribers to *Which?* can read more about what's available in its guide to smart doorbells, cameras and security systems.

**AMBERLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

What your councillors discussed



Highlights of the meeting held on January 14, 2021, via Zoom video-conferencing

Present: Geoff Uren (chairman), Hazel Allinson, Jason Charman, Peter Cozens, Leigh Cresswell, Laura Rawnsley, Tim Simpson and Elizabeth Tooms. Also in attendance: Paul Marshall (Leader, West Sussex County Council), Diana van der Klugt (Horsham District councillor), Vicky Spiers (parish clerk) and one member of the public.

Covid figures for the county, the roll-out of the vaccination programme, funding problems at both county and district levels, a request for a continuous pavement from Amberley station to the village and the prospect of funds becoming available for the proposed car park in Amberley were among the topics discussed.

Paul Marshall, who is leader of West Sussex County Council, reported that the county's Covid-19 figures, as of January 7, were 663 cases per 100,000 of the population, higher than the national figure. The vaccination programme was being rolled out and he was confident that West Sussex would meet the Government target of vaccinating the top four tiers of people by mid-February – around 90,000 residents. West Sussex hospitals remained resilient though in demand, with COVID-19 patients having been transferred from Kent where numbers are higher.

He said WSCC was looking at a £45 million funding gap for 2021/22 but was hoping that proposals to bridge the gap would be agreed at a meeting later in the month and was pleased to announce that the measures would not include the closing of two recycling sites and that the county would not be charging for the disposal of household waste.

Speaking as a district councillor Diana van der Klugt said that HDC's finances were under severe pressure due to a drop in revenue, but an unexpected funding grant from the Government meant that the council would be able to present a balanced budget. Also, on a positive note, she said that the Government-imposed increase in Horsham's annual housing target to 1,710 had been reduced to 1,200 and that various sites were under consideration. Meanwhile, HDC continued to prepare its Local Plan, which would be submitted to the full council for approval in late spring.

She also gave details on a Community Climate Support Fund where community groups and parish councils could apply for funding for initiatives to tackle climate change. Full details were available on HDC's website.

Tim Simpson raised the concerns of a resident regarding the

number of bright, outside lights left on all night could be in contravention of the South Downs National Park Authority's Dark Skies policy. After discussion it was agreed that the parish council would drop a polite note through any households that were not complying with the policy, although it was also noted that there could be valid mitigating reasons for the lighting.

In response to parishioner's queries, it was reported that the stiles along footpath 2667 had now been replaced by kissing gates. And a request by some residents that the hedges along the B2139 should not be cut as they acted as a soundproof and environmental barrier had been passed on to Nyetimber's estate manager, but he had now left and there was currently no replacement.

It was reported that Houghton now had its own Community Speedwatch gun but that the proposed site in Rackham Road for speed monitoring had been turned down by the police, who had failed to respond to a number of e-mails on the subject sent by the parish council.

Following a Zoom meeting with Stephen Douglas, WSCC's Highways traffic officer, it was agreed there should be a further meeting at the end of the month to look at Turnpike Road in more detail (including a request from resident for a continuous pavement from the station to the village), and a session with Neil Vigar, head of the Rights of Way team, to examine a safe pedestrian route from Houghton Bridge to Houghton. This would be followed by the drafting of Community Highways Scheme applications for Mr Douglas to review and to obtain some informal design advice. Community input would also be sought.

The chairman thanked Ian Galbraith for his work on the Giga-bit broadband voucher scheme, which was progressing well with OpenReach.

Jason Charman confirmed that a pothole in Hog Lane had been repaired and that WSCC had cut the hedges along the B2139.

Tim Simpson told councillors that funding for the proposed car park at the corner of School Road and Turnpike Road was required from the Strawberry Villas development, work on which was expected to start in the next six to eight weeks. Some finance had also been secured from Section 106 (Community Infrastructure) funds. There were still a few outstanding planning issues in respect of landscaping and the culvert, but he was confident these would be resolved once a contractor was on site.

On a new planning application for Horse Shoe at Drewitts Farm, it was noted that plots for the garage are drawn differently. It was not clear whether it was the re-siting of one of the garages to be built on the west of the site, or was being built on land acquired by the applicant. While the council supported the construction of a new garage, given the pressure on street parking within the village, it was because of that pressure that

continued on page 20



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continued from page 18

it would be appropriate to attach a condition prohibiting changes that would preclude its use for housing motor vehicles.

There was also concern expressed about the effects of car movements and parking on the users of Amberley station which might result from an application by Amberley Museum for the use of the Friends Centre building and adjoining land by Little Birds Forest Nursery.

Date of the next meeting: March 11, 2021 at 7pm (via Zoom).

- The report on Parham PC's meeting will appear next month.

Gardens Open 2021 cancelled

The next Amberley Gardens Open will be in June 2022. The local committee organising the event has reluctantly come to the decision that last year's postponed Gardens Open scheduled to take place in June this year will not now go ahead.

Recognising the difficulty of forecasting five months in advance with the current pandemic and lockdown, the committee decided that it would not be feasible to proceed with Open Gardens this year. Therefore, regrettably, it has been decided to cancel the event and plan to hold it in 2022 (June 13 – make a note in the diary), thus resuming the regular two-year cycle.

The committee then looked at alternative fundraising ideas for Action Medical Research, the Horsham-based charity it supports, founded more than 60 years ago by the late Duncan Gurthrie, for many years an Amberley resident.

Last year members of the Society of Amberley Garden Enthusiasts (SAGE) organised individual garden visits, pre-booked with the owners and visitor numbers limited and enjoyed by members only. Along with plant sales, it was possible to send AMR almost £1,500 – a fantastic result.

SAGE has kindly agreed to take forward the individual garden visit idea for this summer for the AMR committee to raise funds. More details to follow in the spring.

The AMR committee will also look for opportunities to sell surplus produce later in the year and encourage Amberley residents to grow some extra plants – flowers and vegetables – and take cuttings to be sold. Again, more details to follow later.

Should you have any questions, contact Jacqui Feakins (jaxfs@aol.com) or Suzie Coates (footloose@amberleyvil-lage.net).

- Early research funded by AMR contributed to the development and rapid adoption of the first oral polio vaccine. It continues to raise funds, changing children's lives through medical research, developing treatments, vaccinations and cures. Over the years, Amberley Gardens Open has raised tens of thousand of pounds for the charity.



Reader competition

Two signed copies of *Arundel: A Postman's View* to be won

Arundel postman Martin Alderton and his partner Karen usually run popular presentations, talks and walking tours of the town. Unable to do so during lockdown, the pair turned their hand to writing a book with plenty of facts and figures and some excellent photographs and postcards of the town and its residents. There are sections on the castle, the River Arun, the cathedral, the Parish and Priory Church of St Nicholas, the 13th century Dominican Friary, Arundel's crests and emblems, and personal reflections of some of its notable residents.

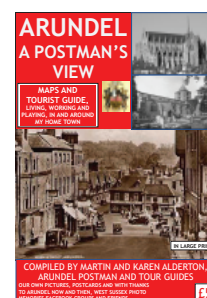
Two copies of the large print edition are being offered as prizes in this easy-to-enter competition.

1. What is the name given to someone who has been born in Arundel?
2. The Duke of Norfolk has another hereditary title, the responsibilities of which include the organisation of major ceremonial state occasions, such as coronations and state funerals. What is that title?
3. What is the name of the lake within Arundel Great Park?

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Return the coupon to Brooklands, East Street, Amberley, or e-mail your answers to mike@brooklandsamberley.com with 'Competition' as the Subject. The winners will be the first two all-correct answers out of the hat.

Closing date: February 17, 2021



Unwanted clothing and linen

The next Bag2School collection in aid of Amberley Primary School is now scheduled for Thursday, April 22. With many charity shops currently closed again, readers might like to consider giving any unwanted clothing and linen to help school funding.

The list of items includes: ● Men's, ladies' and children's clothing ● Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around) ● Handbags ● Hats ● Bags ● Scarves and ties ● Jewellery ● Lingerie ● Socks ● Belts ● Soft toys ● Household linen ● Household curtains ● Household towels ● Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

"Please do keep saving your unwanted second-hand clothes and linen," says Rebecca Beveridge, on behalf of the Friends of Amberley School Association.

She added: "I am thrilled to report we have so far raised over £2,700 through our Just Giving page – which means we are now well over halfway towards our current £5,000 fundraising goal.

"This is an amazing amount to have raised in a single term, particularly in current circumstances, and it must be acknowledged that a significant number of donations have come directly from our local community. You really have gone above and beyond in supporting us at this time.

"Whether you made a cash donation, purchased raffle tickets, donated raffle prizes or brought second-clothes to our Bag2School collection – on behalf of staff, parents and, of course, all of the children at Amberley School, I would like to say thank you and wish you all a healthy and happier 2021."



Xmas wreaths raise almost £900

A Christmas wreath fundraiser on behalf of the National Rheumatoid Arthritis Society raised close on £900.

Wendy Guthrie (pictured above) and Olivia Procter-Moore made and delivered 30 wreaths for friends and neighbours enabling them to donate £448 to the charity. This was matched by a generous pledge by Wendy's son, Henry Lywood, making a grand total of £896.

"We were totally blown away by the level of support we received and couldn't have done it without you," said Wendy, adding that the NRAS had supported the family during a difficult year. "We were so grateful for their support and guidance through Henry's diagnosis."

MP's Bill to get second reading

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 this 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.

Sussex Heritage Awards

Amberley Place, a Grade II listed 18th century house in The Alley, received a high commendation in this year's Sussex Heritage Awards, which celebrate architecture, design, traditional building skills and craftsmanship. It was submitted by Robin Nugent Architects of Horsham.



The Wildbrooks Churches held a successful pop-up stall in Amberley Square at the beginning of December, prior to the imposition of the third lockdown restrictions. There were gifts, Christmas cards and home produce on sale, plus a raffle.



Amberley's Nativity Motorcade

In the absence of the now traditional Nativity Procession on Christmas Eve – not possible on 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic – Amberley staged a suitably restriction observant Nativity Motorcade instead.

A total of 17 vehicles took part. Most were open-top, ranging from a 1909 Renault and a 1927 Rolls-Royce to Austin Healeys, a Jaguar XK120, Triumph TR3A, an original AC Cobra, Mini Moke, Land Rover and a small assortment of saloons. They started at Amberley station and drove via Rackham and Crossgates, and then around the village.

The procession was led by a Bethlehem star-bearing motorcyclist (Phil O'Beirne), followed by a holy family – Steve and Charlie Dalmon and 10-month-old Honey – in the back of Ford truck. They were followed by the Angel Gabrielle (Sarah), an assortment of angel taxis, shepherds, neighbours, friends and three kings (Paul Noon, Jeremy Judd and Jay Simson), with two 'Press' Minis (including the *Herod Daily News*) bringing up the rear (Roger and Olivia Agate).

Organiser Hazel Allinson was delighted everyone dressed for the occasion, including kings, angels and shepherds looking resplendent in their costumes.

"Christmas in Amberley wouldn't be the same without the Christmas Eve journey," commented St Michael's churchwarden Mel Edge, adding that it was fortunate that the motorcade was able to go ahead before the Tier 4 Covid restrictions were imposed on Boxing Day.

"It was a real delight and made us all smile," added one of the many appreciative spectators Fraser Wheeler.

Earlier this year, the village organised the successful Amberley Revival to compensate for the cancellation of the Goodwood event. A similar event is being planned for 2021.



Proud parents: Steve and Charlie Dalmon with baby Honey in the back of Graham and Suzanne Sullivan's Ford truck



Paul and Gail Noon in their 1909 Renault



The Angel Gabrielle: Sarah with Bella in the dicky seat of a 1928 Rolls-Royce



Jay Simson and Judy Howard-Jackson in their Jaguar XK120



Star of Bethlehem: Phil O'Beirne on his Triumph motorcycle led the motorcade; Rae and Martin Foggo in their Austin Healey 100/4; below (left): The Simpson family in their Suzuki Jimny and (right) Jeremy Judd at the wheel of his AC Cobra, accompanied by wife Jill



Above: Wendy Huggins on her mobility scooter with daughter Gid; left: *Daily Herod Press* Mini driven by Roger Agate; right: David Stedman in his TR3A



Above (left): John Tanner and sister Jan Francis in a Mini Moke; (centre): Geoff Uren in his 1955 Austin Healey 100/4; and (right): James Steele Sargent and daughter Emma in his Austin Healey Sprite, with James Coates' Land Rover just behind



REVIEW

2020 That Was The Year That Was...

Our annual round-up of the past year

2020 was a year like no other. Despite the year beginning with raging fires in America and Australia, floods in the UK, and Donald Trump's (first) impeachment, none of those events dominated our lives like the coming Coronavirus pandemic.

Originating in China, in March Covid19 took centre stage, but few had any idea it would be there for the rest of the year. The UK had nationwide lockdowns, isolation, quarantine and travel restrictions, and learned phrases like social-distancing, shielding, and self-isolation, while for 10 weeks, millions stood on their doorsteps and joined the Clap for Carers.

Possibly the first indication of the seriousness of the outbreak occurred when 3,700 people were quarantined aboard a cruise ship off Japan.

By the end of the year, the UK's death toll was over 72,000, with 1.8 million deaths globally.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced the first national lockdown would begin at 1pm on March 26th. He ordered people to stay at home, banned gatherings of more than two people and closed all non-essential retail. Overnight, "home schooling" became a daily reality and families quickly learned the value of school and trained teachers. Sales of alcohol seem to have been sustained by reluctant parent/teachers.

Restrictions eased on June 1, so people from different households were able to meet in groups of six in gardens and outdoor spaces. Two weeks later, non-essential shops – including toys, furniture, charity, betting and clothes – were allowed to re-open, but hairdressers and barbers were not able to welcome customers back until early July.

A raft of changes were introduced on October 12, including the three-tiered local lockdown system. The second national lockdown came into force at the end of that month with people once again being advised to stay at home, with all non-essential retail, restaurants and bars once again closed.

Again, people were only allowed to leave their homes for specific purposes such as work and volunteering, fulfilling legal obligations, essential activities such as shopping for food, ed-

ucation and childcare, meeting others in their support bubble, medical requirements, and events such as attending a place of worship for individual prayer or a funeral. Hairdressers and beauty salons were also closed again. However, unlike the first lockdown, schools, colleges and universities remained open.

We waited all year for hope in the form of a vaccine and just before Christmas, as with buses, three came along at once. The sting in the tail was that the UK identified a new, more contagious strain of the virus which resulted in another virtual lockdown for most of the country. In addition, 40 countries, including France, imposed travel bans from the UK which left 5,000 lorry drivers having to spend Christmas in their cabs, parked on the M20 in Kent or at Manston Airport.

Most of us had a Christmas in more functional surroundings than a lorry park but despite initial optimism, celebrations were paired back to sharing time with just one other household for just one day. A virtual New Year's Eve brought the corona virus year to an end.

The pandemic had a numbing effect on the economy – with furloughs, bail-outs and loss in tax revenue, the Government had borrowed an eye-watering £128 billion since March, increasing the national debt to over £2 trillion. Thousands of jobs were lost and companies went out of business – the retail, travel and hospitality sectors were the hardest hit. Among the company failures were some familiar high street

names from Debenhams and Dorothy Perkins to Monsoon Accessorize, Laura Ashley and Oddbins.

The entertainment industry was decimated, but there were pockets of creative solutions using new technologies. BBC iPlayer hosted Staged, a series written, filmed and streamed under lockdown. There were socially-distanced or remote TV and radio panel shows. Musicians live-streamed concerts, orchestras played "together" from their own homes. Families and friends learned how to hold quizzes by video link and, possibly the most surprising winner, was Joe Wicks' daily workout for adults and children, which brought families together for a quick exercise to start the day.

Huge annual events were cancelled, ranging from the Olympics in Tokyo to the Chelsea Flower Show, the 50th Anniversary of Glastonbury and major exhibitions and sporting events. Many, such as the political party conferences, were held virtually. Sporting fixtures – rugby, soccer, tennis, golf

continued on page 27



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continued from page 24

horse-racing – were eventually allowed to be held behind closed doors, with a brief relaxation towards the end of the year when small, carefully controlled crowds of spectators were admitted.

Having dominated the years before, in 2020 Brexit, took a back seat until the fast approaching deadline at the end the one-year transition period extension. With still no agreement on a trade deal with the EU, the main stumbling blocks seemed to be the UK's sovereignty and territorial fishing rights. With just days to go, a deal was struck and after an emergency debate at Westminster, parliament having been virtually recalled, it received Royal Assent on January 30.

2020 saw increasing concerns about global warming, with Sir David Attenborough maintaining that we had reached "a moment of crisis", insisting that urgent action needed to be taken if we are to avoid a catastrophic future. While most political attention was on climate change, 2020 was also seen as potentially important for halting the damage human activity is having on ecosystems.

Sir David had a blunt explanation for why this mattered: "We actually depend upon the natural world for every breath of air we take and every mouthful of food that we eat."

As part of its climate 10-point plan to make the UK carbon-neutral by 2050, the Government brought forward its decision to end the sales of new petrol and diesel cars by ten years, to 2030.

Australia's horrendous bush fires took the lives of an estimated 450 people, destroyed 47 million acres and killed around 1 billion animals. Beirut saw a massive explosion caused by the accidental detonation of almost 3,000 tons of inadequately stored ammonium nitrate, which killed more than 200 people and injured 6,500 as well as destroying a large part of the city.

The Black Lives Matter movement regularly campaigned against institutional racism and violence towards black people, and spoke out against police brutality and racial inequality. The gained impetus following the death of George Floyd in the US, with widespread protests – sometimes violent – around the world in May and June. The UK saw its own BLM and anti-lockdown protests.

2020 proved a difficult year for the Royal family, with both Prince Charles and Prince William contracting Covid-19, the decision by Prince Harry and Meghan Markle to step back from their senior roles and to move to California, and the ongoing scandal surrounding Prince Andrew.

Following one of the most controversial presidencies in history, including an impeachment, Donald Trump lost the election in November to Joe Biden, but refused to accept the result. Just before the end of the year, after 62 failed law-suits,



Empty skies and deserted roads, including the B2139, were a feature of Lockdown 1

Republicans began to acknowledge their candidate's defeat – the third president since World War II not to secure a second term of office.

In the world of sport, Lewis Hamilton clinched his seventh Formula 1 world championship, equaling the record set by Michael Schumacher and surpassing his total number of wins. This achievement earned him

the BBC's *Sports Personality of the Year* title and a knighthood in the 2021 New Year's Honours list. England emerged winners of the Six Nations rugby tournament, Liverpool won their first league title for 30 years and the first of the Premier League era, and Arsenal beat Chelsea 2-1 in the delayed FA Cup Final. The disrupted cricket season got underway in August, with counties competing in the Bob Willis Trophy, which was won by Essex.

Sadly, many well-known people left us this year, some to Covid but many not. Those include former French president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing; singers Pearl Carr, Julie Felix, Juliette Gréco, Little Richard, Dame Vera Lynn, Johnny Nash, Charley Pride, Helen Reddy, Kenny Rogers and Eddie von Halen; musicians Julian Bream, Spencer Davis; actors Sir Sean Connery, Kirk Douglas, Derek Fowlds, Michael Lindsay and Geoffrey Palmer; actresses Honor Blackman, Jill Gascoine, Anna Quayle, Dame Diana Rigg and Dame Barbara Windsor; Monty Python star Terry Jones; comedians Bobby Ball, Tim Brooke-Taylor, Roy Hudd, Eddie Large and John Sessions; entertainers Clive James and Des O'Connor; broadcasters Frank Bough, Peter Hobday and Nicholas Parsons; writers John le Carré, Jan Morris and Jill Paton Walsh; former newspaper editors Sir Harold Evans (*Sunday Times*) and Sir Peregrine Worsthorne (*Sunday Telegraph*); photographer Terry O'Neill; designer Sir Terence Conran and fashion guru Pierre Cardin; former Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks; chefs Gary Rhodes and Michel Roux; motor-racing icon Sir Stirling Moss; footballers Peter Bonetti, Jack Charlton, Diego Maradona, Nobby Stiles, Billy Wright and managers Tommy Docherty and Gérard Houllier; Wales international rugby player J J Williams; and professional snooker player Willie Thorne.

...and here in the Wildbrooks Parishes

Locally, it was a year of non-events as the popular biennial Amberley Open Gardens was cancelled and, for the first time since its inception in 1946, the annual Rackham Fete and Flower Show failed to take place in the autumn. Parham House and Gardens remained closed throughout the year and Amberley Museum was closed for five months. The museum's much heralded James Bond celebratory weekend – part of the movie *A View to Kill* featuring Roger Moore's final appearance as 007 was filmed at the museum – at the end of March was an early lockdown-casualty, as was their imaginative Sculpture Trail, which had opened only days before.

continued on page 28



continued from page 27

The Amberley Society managed to stage just one meeting – an entertaining talk by Dr Tony Whitbread, president of the Sussex Wildlife Trust, entitled *What have plants ever done for us?*

The museum reopened for about three months in the summer and was then forced to close again. There was only one village lunch (not the four planned) and the village bus was suspended during the first lockdown but resumed services temporarily later in the year.

However, the lockdown in March saw a community pulling together like never before and several of us getting to know more of our neighbours. At the beginning of March, Amberley Parish Council was alerted to the need for a contingency plan for the looming pandemic. They held discussions with Amberley Good Neighbours Emergency Service (AGNES), volunteers of the village bus service, Amberley Village Stores, the school, public houses and other local business, to hear what changes they planned to make.

At the March 12 Parish Council meeting it was agreed that a leaflet would be hand-delivered to every house in the parish. It would provide contact numbers for sources of help and psychological support, together with a call for volunteers to help with home deliveries from the shop. The Department of Education was asked for advice about necessary school measures, and the volunteer bus service was reviewed and a contingency plan was to be more fully developed.

The pace quickened. On March 16 Secretary of State for Health Matt Hancock announced the need for a national lockdown. All people aged over 70, pregnant women and those with certain underlying health problems were advised to shield and thus be dependent on home deliveries. The rest of the population was asked to work from home wherever possible, to maintain social distancing, and to shop as infrequently as practicable and then only for food, medicines or other essential supplies. An Amberley video-conference was held the same day and established the need for a small group to act as coordinators for the development of action across all four Wildbrooks parishes. The capabilities of this group included medical, internet communication, crisis management, business expertise and local knowledge. That saw the creation of the Covid-19 Help Hub which continued to consult daily by video-conference.

On March 22 a single telephone reporting number was established, with just four people providing a round-the-clock response. The hub became the port-of-call for advice for all matters relating to Covid-19. It was particularly concerned to issue advice for the protection of those providing services such as the village shop, and for those undertaking or receiving deliveries.

The hub received notice of those with Covid-19 symptoms and maintained a confidential register of those self-isolating and shielding, as well as volunteers. It posted and, where necessary, interpreted advice from the GOV-UK website, emphasizing the need to follow government advice. The numbers of those with Covid-19 symptoms were published daily on Listserve, the village intranet, and the hub provided information of its activities to Horsham District Council and West Sussex County Council.

Much of this organisation, dissemination and support was carried out online using video-conferencing and Listserve. However, not all residents in the Wildbrooks parishes had internet access so the circulation of the *Wildbrooks Parish Magazine* was stepped up for distribution to all households in the four parishes, and the Neighbourhood Helpline website was established.

On April 6 the Amberley Welfare Trust announced details of how it might be able to support those in need of financial help.

All of this activity was only possible because of the willing army of volunteers who came forward to support those self-isolating and maintain the social structure of the parish.

Amberley Village Stores, for example, was able to offer reliable, free deliveries with the help of 25 volunteers, co-ordinated by David Vokins, and who delivered over 8,000 bags of shopping to 240 homes in all four Wildbrooks parishes during the 12-week lockdown. Even after the restrictions were lifted the store was still delivering over 500 bags of shopping every week and continued to do so for the remainder of the year, as well as introducing a click-and-collect service.

Colin Woods, the proprietor of Amberley Village Stores, became one of the first recipients of a Covid Community Championship Award presented by Andrew Griffith, MP for Arundel and the South



Local heroes: among the many people helping to keep the community functioning during the lockdown were (clockwise from top right, pictured before social distancing): Lee Stace, Tina Bishop and Colin Woods at Amberley Village Stores; Sophie Cooper and Lee Forbes at the Sportsman Inn; Dean Roberts, Sue and Andy Ford, and Roger and Judy Agate busy delivering meals; and Lucy and Molly Gardner busy delivering papers, seven days a week

Downs. The parish council commissioned Caroline Seaton, of Amberley Village Pottery, to design and make a special commemorative dish for each of the Covid volunteers.

All three pubs and Amberley Castle were forced to close. Soon after, Lee Forbes and Sophie Cooper at the Sportsman introduced a home delivery service, operated by volunteers, who delivered more than 3,431 meals to almost 160 households, including 1,750 portions of their now famous fish and chips. They resumed the service for the second lockdown and continued it through the winter.

Linda Connell made scores of face masks and Cathy Briggs turned her hand to laundry bags and scrubs hats for hospitals and care homes. David and Lillis Lyon opened their garden at Oak Tree House on a regular basis for residents to stroll around as part of their permitted daily exercise.

Amberley and Parham Parish Councils continued their meetings via Zoom, a video and audio conferencing system. When church buildings were forced to close, they kept their work going by switching to online prayer and support. Once the restrictions were relaxed, there were churchyard services and a pet blessing service on the Millennium Green.

The summer brought an unexpected heat-wave and on the day Wiggonholt hit the headlines as the hottest place in the UK, with a temperature of 34.5C (94F) we enjoyed a churchyard concert and picnic at St Michael's. The event raised £500 for church funds and a £250 donation to the Help Musicians charity, as well as paying for the three talented young musicians who entertained an appreciative audience.

Although the school was closed, children of key workers and those entitled to free school meals were invited to the sister school at Coldwaltham which remained open throughout the lockdown, including the Easter holiday. Alex Dunn received the annual Walton Prize for the pupil who made the biggest contribution to school life during 2019/20.

At the end of the summer term Jon Gilbert, headteacher of the Arun Villages Federation, which includes both Amberley and Coldwaltham's Primary Schools, stepped down after six years in the post to become schools advisor for the Diocese. Stephanie Gibson was appointed as his successor and Paul Armstrong was named as head of school at Amberley.

The VE day celebrations marking the 75th anniversary of the end Second World War were somewhat muted, but Amberley rose to the occasion with bunting, flags and a few small, socially-distanced street gatherings.

Despite the fact the annual Macmillan Coffee Morning could not take place in the Church Hall at the end of September, cakes were baked and a series of smaller events for up to six people were hosted by supporters. Together with the usual

raffle, it raised a record amount of almost £1,900 for the cancer support charity – a remarkable result in the circumstances.

And in the absence of the cancelled Goodwood Revival, Amberley staged its own 'Revival' on a gloriously sunny day in September, attracting 45 classic cars and raising £1,500 for St Michael's Church and its supported charities.

A successful campaign by Crossgates residents for a Community Fibre Partnership with Openreach was expanded, with government funding obtained to provide full-fibre broadband to every property in Amberley, Houghton Bridge and North Stoke. Openreach expect to complete implementation towards the end of this year.

On the environmental front, Pick Amberley continued their litter picking activities until the lockdown. On one of their final outings they filled 22 bags of discarded rubbish along the B2139 and at Whiteways roundabout. The Amberley Climate Network organised a visit for 14 residents to the Materials Recycling Centre at Ford. However, the Wiggonholt Association, which had staged a successful Climate Change Forum at the end of 2019, was forced to cancel its follow-up event in March.

Former Arundel and South Downs MP Nick Herbert received a peerage in the Queen's Birthday Honours, while his successor, Andrew Griffith, was appointed by the Prime Minister as the UK's Net Zero Business Champion to help businesses meet the 2050 zero

emissions target. Roger Townsend stepped down as chair of the Amberley Parish Trust after 14 years in the role and was succeeded by David Vokins. And Ros Simpson published her first novel – *In Green Pastures*.

A Community Speedwatch initiative was established by Amberley Parish Council and the Houghton Meeting to monitor the speed of vehicles on the B2139. The 40mph speed limit through the Amberley stretch of the road was extended eastwards with the completion of an extra section of pavement along Turnpike Road as far as the football pitch.

Turners Garage at Bury Common, run by Alan Turner, the third generation of the family, celebrated its centenary and the year ended with a Nativity Motorcade on Christmas Eve through Rackham and Amberley instead of the usual procession on foot from The Square along Church Street.

Sadly those no longer with us include Sheila Blunden (Greatham), Elizabeth Butler (Amberley), Mark Croucher (a thatcher who had worked on many houses locally), Val Figg and Georgina Foggo (both of Amberley), Josie Hartt (Rackham), Mavis Philby (formerly of Crossgates), Ena Richardson (Parham), Greta Sigurjonsson (who had returned to Iceland with her family after several years living in Houghton Bridge), and Commander Robert Woolgar (formerly of Amberley). All are greatly missed.

Mike Toynbee and Alex Dunlop



Caroline Seaton, of Amberley Village Pottery, designed and made a commemorative dish for each of the Covid volunteers



Yew, yew and yew – three of the oldest trees in Sussex

Palm Sunday commemorates Jesus' famed donkey ride into Jerusalem. Recreating that palm-branch-strewn journey in Britain has been botanically challenging, since palm trees don't grow in our climate. Instead, churches gathered sprigs of native yew to provide the ceremonial décor and in some areas, the Sunday before Easter became known as Yew Sunday. And that's why every churchyard has a yew.

Well, actually the yew's churchyard connection is because yews are evergreen and can miraculously regrow from a dead stump. The trees were planted as a symbol of everlasting life and a reminder of the Easter resurrection. But, hold on; how come over 500 churchyard yews in England and Wales are older than their churches? It must mean that the yews themselves were pagan places of worship and the churches were built around them. Or they were planted on the graves of plague victims to purify the dead? Or it could be something to do with long bows? Or keeping the waiting congregation sheltered and dry each Sunday?

No-one seems sure where this association started but, whatever the reason, yews look right at home in churchyards. Dark, dense and unmoving they solemnly preside over the sad ceremonies held underneath their boughs and have seen generations come and go (but mostly go). Yews themselves deliver death and every part of them is highly poisonous; their leaves, their bark, their seeds. Only the fleshy red arils around the toxic seeds are harmless, encouraging birds to feed on them and disperse the poisonous cargo within. Yet death itself does not seem to inconvenience the yew.

Two rival British yews are advertised as the oldest living thing in Europe, at an alleged 5,000 years old. Not many yews in Sussex can rival these great evergreen granddaddies. Most of our whippersnappers are probably just a couple of hundred years old. The problem is it's hard to accurately age a yew. As they get older, their blood red heart-wood rots, leaving them hollow inside and without traditional growth rings. Its heart may no longer be in it but that won't stop the yew from growing.

One of the oldest yews in Sussex can be found just down the road in the churchyard of St Giles' at Coldwaltham. It is estimated to be around 2,000 years old – some 800 years older than the 12th century church. Another, even older tree is in Stedham churchyard near Midhurst. It's thought to be a mind-boggling 2,500 years old.

Over in Wilmington, at the foot of the Long Man, a monstrous yew dominates the churchyard. At a reputed age of 1,600 years. Supported by wooden props and straining against rusting chains, it's as if a travelling circus is exhibiting an aging dinosaur.



Trunk call: the Editor went to investigate the 2000-year-old yew in the churchyard of St Giles', Coldwaltham. Picture: Mike Beck

It's worth a visit to all three of these old timers. For me, standing in the shadow of a plant that is 40 times older than you is humbling and a reminder that for us mere humans, life is indeed brief.

Michael Blencowe

Sussex Wildlife Trust

● Why not become a member of the Sussex Wildlife Trust? It's easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join

RECIPE

Pineapple fruit cake

A favourite in the Hoy household.

You need

- 12 oz mixed fruit
- 2-3 eggs
- 4 oz butter
- 8 oz dark brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon mixed spice
- 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 1 tin crushed pineapple (13.5 oz and juice)
- 8 oz SR flour
- Pinch of salt (optional)

Method

Boil mixed fruit, butter, sugar, pineapple, mixed spice and salt for three minutes.

Allow to cool.

Mix in beaten eggs.

Mix in sifted flour and bicarbonate of soda.

Cook in 325 degrees F oven for 1.5 to 2 hours, in a deep lined cake tin (or 2 small cake tins for approximately half that time.)

Rhona Hoy



AMBERLEY CLIMATE NETWORK

The plight of the (bumble) bee

Friends of the Earth provide 14 key facts about the importance of bees and what we can do to help stop their decline

Why do we need bees?

Bees are essential to a healthy environment and healthy economy. We rely on them and other insects to pollinate most of our fruit and vegetables. But bees are under threat and without them so is our food and economy. You can make your garden, road and community bee-friendly. It's also vital that we persuade the government to take action. Join the generation that saves bees.

1. Bees are crucial to the economy

What did you have for breakfast today? Jam on toast? Grilled tomatoes with your fry-up? Maybe fruit juice or a coffee?

It's tempting to think bees just provide us with honey – but in fact they're behind much of the food we eat, including most fruit and vegetables.

Bees are crucial to our economy – without them it would cost UK farmers £1.8 billion a year to pollinate our crops. In a world without bees, our food would cost a lot more to produce and our economy would suffer.

2. A healthy environment needs bees

Whether you find them charming or annoying, bees are incredibly important. They pollinate plants in gardens, parks and the wider countryside, including more than three-quarters of the UK's wildflowers.

Flourishing nature and healthy animal populations are a sign of how healthy our environment is, yet one million species face extinction – including over 20,000 species of bee and a quarter of UK mammals. Ask government to prevent mass extinction and protect our animals and the environment.

3. Bee-friendly spaces are good for us, too

Places that are good for pollinators are good for people too. We share bees' need for varied, natural green spaces and the essentials such places provide, such as clean air and water. They're important if we're going to cope with a changing climate – natural spaces absorb excess water and heat, and can offer cool shade.

4. Bees are literary icons

From pub signs and town names, from Shakespeare to JK Rowling, from beehive hair-dos to phrases like "having a bee in your bonnet" – the bee has been a star for centuries. Roman philosopher Pliny referred to honey as "the sweat of the heavens and the saliva of the stars", while Medieval author and poet Chaucer was one of the first to use the phrase "busy as bees".

The bumblebee has always been a source of special delight because of its portly features and furry bottom. Mr Bumble in *Oliver Twist* and Dumbledore (a Cornish word for bumblebee) in Harry Potter suit their names well.

5. Different bees have different personalities



A bee on the fragrant blossom of a sorbus vilморinii tree. Picture: Mike Beck

The Honey bee is probably the best-known bee around, but over 270 species of bee have been recorded in Great Britain. Honey bees and bumblebees live socially, led by a queen and serviced by male drones and female worker bees.

Solitary bees tend to be smaller and their family unit is made up of a single pair. Although lots of solitary bees can be found in one area, they operate alone. Bumblebees are distinguished by their large furry bodies and species include the black and-yellow striped Garden bumblebee and Red-tailed bumblebee. Solitary bees include mason bees,

leaf-cutter bees and mining bees. The Wool-carder bee strips hair from plants to weave its nest, while the Red mason bee lives inside hollow plant stems and holes in wood.

6. Endangered bee species

Since 1900, the UK has lost 13 species of bee, and a further 35 are considered under threat of extinction. None are protected by law. Across Europe nearly one in ten wild bee species face extinction.

7. What are the causes of bee decline?

We already know enough to do something to help, even if some issues might need more research to be fully understood. Known causes of bee decline include things that affect us, too. These include changes in land use, habitat loss, disease, pesticides, farming practices, pollution, invasive non-native plant and animal species, and climate change.

continued overleaf



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8. Without bees, we're in trouble

The outlook for bees right now is quite bleak – and their drop in numbers is a sign of the plight of the natural world as a whole. Across society, we often undervalue nature and what it does for us. The truth is, if we want an economy that provides for everyone's needs in the long term, we need to look after our natural environment. Our politicians need to understand the importance of protecting the natural world – including bees.

9. Bees and neonicotinoids

There's now overwhelming scientific evidence that neonicotinoids harm bees. Neonicotinoids are a group of pesticides commonly used in UK farming. The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) declared in 2013 that they posed an "unacceptable risk" to bees, leading to temporary restrictions.

And in April 2018 countries across the European Union – including the UK – voted to ban the outdoor use of three bee-harming pesticides. We want the UK government to keep any EU restrictions on bee-harming pesticides post-Brexit. Together we can ban bee-harming pesticides for good so bees can thrive.

10. Bees are easy to help

We can make a huge difference where we live by doing a few simple things. Planting flowers rich in nectar will really help bees find the food they need. Choosing local, British honey will lend your support to our honey bees and their beekeepers. Encouraging your friends and neighbours to do the same will help create bee-friendly communities.

11. You can get bee-friendly plants

If you've decided to make somewhere better for bees, the first thing to do is survey your spot. Take a short walk to see what's attracting bees – are there plants or trees that look particularly popular? Lots of ornamental flowers have been bred to contain no nectar – they might look good but do little for wildlife.

12. Bees love herbs

Choose flowers with pollen that bees can get at easily – single-flower varieties for example. Grow a range of plants that will provide a succession of flowers for as long as possible during the year – bees need nectar from very early spring until early winter. The great thing about gardening is that it's good for you as well as wildlife. Fresh air and gentle exercise improve health and wellbeing. The scale of your bee-friendly growing will depend on your outside space, but it all helps. If you don't have a garden, plant a

window box or hanging basket. You could try:

Flowering herbs – marjoram, chives, sage and thyme.

Low growers – crocus, bluebell, snowdrop and nasturtium.

Bushy plants – hyssop, hebe, rosemary and lavender.

Trees – hawthorn, hazel, holly and willow.

Fruit and vegetables – strawberries, tomatoes and beans

Attractive ornamentals – achillea, allium, angelica, echinacea, foxglove and verberna.

13. Solitary bees need individual nests

There are more than 200 species of solitary bee in the UK that need individual nests. Some species tunnel into the ground, sandy banks or crumbling mortar. Others use hollow stems or holes in wood. By making things like this available it's easy to create ideal accommodation for solitary bees. You could provide a bundle of hollow plant stems or a luxurious bee hotel, packed with dry logs, untreated timber and soft, crumbly mortar. The other thing bees need is water – so make sure there's a source nearby like a bird bath or pond, especially on hot days.

14. Local honey is best

An easy – and delicious – way to help the British honey bee is to buy the fruits of its labour: support beekeepers by choosing honey produced near you. You'll see all the different colours honey can be – from dark green and deep gold to almost pure white. And it could be an excuse to buy other products like honey beer, beeswax candles and sweet-smelling honey soaps and balms.



Year-end rainfall

After a damp autumn, November was relatively dry – with the exception of one or two days when there were torrential downpours. The total for the month was 67.8mm (just under 2¾in) compared with 152.7 (6in) during November 2019. There were only eight completely dry days and almost half the month's total fell on a single day – November 14. A lot more rain fell during December, with 21 wet days and a total of 151.2mm (6in) against 165mm (6½in) during the corresponding month the previous year.

The total rainfall for 2020 was 990.7mm (39in), against 959.1mm (37¾in) in 2019, and only (101.6mm) 4in more than 2018.

Figures compiled by Peter Daughtrey

Paws for thought

Dear Grace: I always suffer short shrift at Christmas, because my birthday is on Boxing Day, and celebrations (and my presents) have suffered accordingly.

Given what we have all been through over the last year, I had high hopes that this year would have been different.

I suppose my master and mistress tried in their peculiar fashion. However, one of my presents was horrendous: a large rubber turkey. Which one had such appalling taste? No names, but Henry VIII is a clue.

What kind of Birthday/Christmas present is a large rubber turkey? What does one do with it? One can't eat it, play with it, or conduct any sensible conversation with it.

Moreover, it terrified me.

Its naked carcass was an unhealthy dead colour; the neck hideously scrawny; the eyes those of a mad loon, and the squawk was like screeching flatulence way off the Beaufort wind scale.

It took several days of me hiding behind a chair before they realised what caused my terror and happily, have now hidden it somewhere in the house. So shocked was I, that I still enter a room with extreme caution.

Anyway, life now goes on as usual. Or rather it doesn't. My master has decided that my letters to you should cease, as his agent is busy trying to sell my column to another publication: either the Steeple Bumpstead Clarion-Bugle, or Muck Shifter & Bulk Handler, I can't remember which.

This won't stop our friendship and I'll look forward to seeing you and Hebe sometime in the Millennium Field. Meanwhile, stay safe!

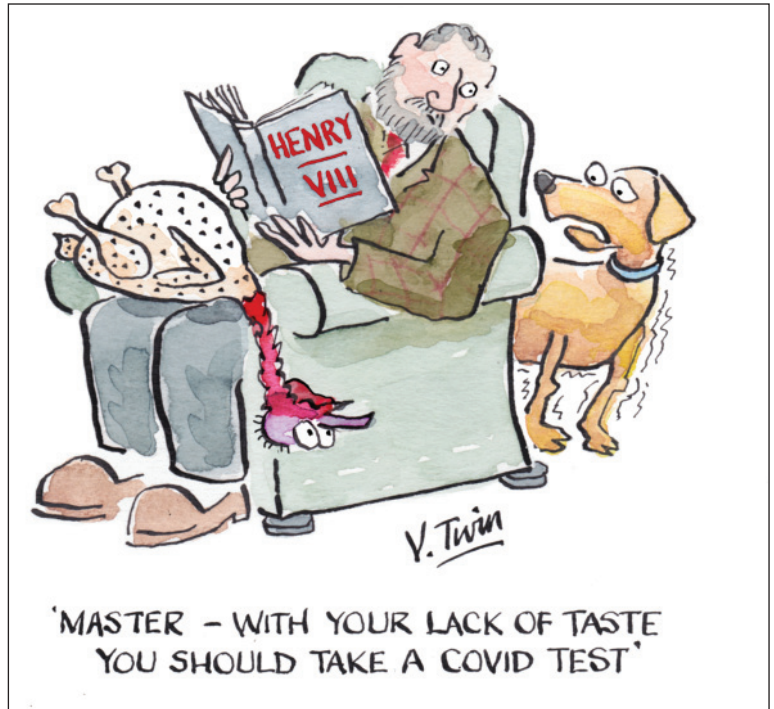
See you soon.

Poppy

Dear Poppy: Sounds as though you had a fairly eventful Christmas, unlike ours. This turkey sounds horrendous – however, the odd titbit from the real thing wouldn't have gone amiss. But rubber? What on earth was your master thinking of? It is the sort of thing nightmares are made of.

Hebe and I had a relatively quiet time and did not get to see our canine family, although our mistress did pay a short visit to her family in Shipley on Christmas Day. Apparently it was something called a 'bubble'. Between you and me, I can't see her driving a bubble car. Let's hope things get back to some sort of sanity before too long.

There was a bit of scaremongering that we dogs can transmit this invisible bug but apparently there is no evidence



to that effect although there is some suggestion by the experts that pets should be vaccinated in due course.

The wildlife in our garden is getting out of hand. The squirrels are causing havoc with the birdfeeders and the birds seem to be taking over the rest of the garden. There is a large pheasant who struts about as though he owns the place. My mistress has christened him Gordon, not that he looks like a Gordon to me. I suppose it could be worse – he could have been a turkey! It's a bit irritating as Hebe and I have to wait until he has scoffed his breakfast before we are allowed to go into the garden. I really don't know what the world is coming to.

Hebe, the terrier, seems to be getting a lot of warts all over her body – let's hope she is not turning into a toad. I suppose that's another visit to the vet once the lockdown restrictions have eased a bit. Between us, we must be helping to keep the vet's practice going.

Impressively, our mistress is quite hi-tech and we are enjoying FaceTime on the iPad. When we dogs see each other we all have a good bark, which is great fun if perhaps a little noisy. But who cares!

I am sorry you've decided to lay down your pen, so to speak. I have very much enjoyed our monthly correspondence – you really do have quite a literary turn of phrase which I suppose you have inherited from your master. I understand he was a top defence journalist before becoming a successful author (apparently he has published lots of books on the Tudors and Henry VIII).

But with luck we will see you before too long. Meanwhile, take care of yourself and I hope your folks stay safe from this horrid Covid thing.

Grace



EDITORIAL

Bee aware

Since my sister took up bee-keeping three years ago, I have become very much more aware of the importance of bees to our lives. The excellent article by Friends of the Earth on pages 31 and 32 outlines why we should value bees, why they are becoming an endangered species and what we can do to help their survival. It is good, straightforward advice.

There are various reasons for the decline in the bee population ranging from habitat loss to pollution and climate change. However, the biggest threat, it seems, is from the use of neonicotinoids, which are a group of pesticides commonly used in farming.

This pesticide is lethal to bees and other pollinators. And as bees pollinate up to threequarters of crops, it makes the use of this pesticide incredibly counter-productive.

In 2013 the European Food Safety Authority declared that neonicotinoids posed “an unacceptable risk” to bees, which led to temporary restrictions. Three years ago, countries across the European Union – including the UK – agreed to ban the outdoor use of three bee-harming pesticides.

It is important, if not imperative, that the UK Government keeps to the pledge now that we have finally left the EU.

If you agree, there are at least two online petitions circulating calling on the Government not to reintroduce these pesticides.

You could say I have a bee in my bonnet!

While on the subject of wildlife, the other big concern is the decline in the hedgehog population. In the 1950s, it was estimated there were as many as 36.5 million hedgehogs in Britain. By 1995, that figure was probably just over 1.5 million and it is thought that numbers could have fallen dramatically since then – possibly by as much as 50 per cent since the turn of the millennium.

Conservation groups are particularly concerned about the plight of hedgehogs in rural areas as figures suggest the animals are disappearing more rapidly here in the countryside, as hedgerows and field margins are lost to intensive farming. However, there are signs that populations in urban areas may be recovering.

Again, we can do much to help with their survival by ensuring they have water to drink and not putting out bread or milk, checking bonfires and not forking over compost heaps in case hedgehogs or other animals have taken up residence. And do leave some areas of wilderness in the garden where the hedgehogs can snuffle for insects.

Mike Toynbee

The Bee-Boy's Song

Bees! Bees! Hark to your bees!

“Hide from your neighbours as much as you please,

But all that has happened, to us you must tell,

Or else we will give you no honey to sell!”

A maiden in her glory,

Upon her wedding day,

Must tell her bees the story,

Or else they'll fly away.

Fly away – die away –

Dwindle down and leave you!

But if you don't deceive your bees,

Your bees will not deceive you.

Marriage, birth or buryin',

News across the seas,

All you're sad or merry in,

You must tell the bees.

Tell 'em coming in an' out,

Where the Fanners fan,

'Cause the bees are just about

As curious as a man!

Don't you wait where the trees are,

When the lightnings play,

Nor don't you hate where Bees are,

Or else they'll pine away.

Pine away -- dwine away --

Anything to leave you!

But if you never grieve your Bees,

Your Bees'll never grieve you. **Rudyard Kipling**

**Deadline for the March issue is
Friday, February 12, 2021**

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

E-mail: mike@brooklandsamberley.com

LOCAL INFORMATION

Refuse & Recycling Calendar

Household refuse collections (Amberley/Crossgates/Rackham, Mill Lane, High Titten, New Barn Road and Houghton Bridge) for non-recyclable waste will be on **Tuesdays, February 2 and 16**; mixed dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) and garden waste (brown top bins for registered users only) will be collected on **Tuesdays, February 9 and 23**. For Church Street and Hog Lane, collections for dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) will be on **Wednesdays, February 3 and 17**; garden waste (brown top bins for registered users only) will be collected on **Mondays, February 8 and 22**; and collections for non-recyclable waste will be on **Wednesdays, February 10 and 24**.

Opening hours for amenity tips

Winter opening hours are **Billingshurst** 9am-4pm (closed Thursday and Friday); **Bognor Regis** 9am-4pm (closed Thursday and Friday); **Chichester (Westhampnett)** 9am-4pm (closed Tuesday); **Littlehampton** 9am-4pm (closed Tuesday and Wednesday). **Note:** proof of West Sussex residency is required (ie driving licence).

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)



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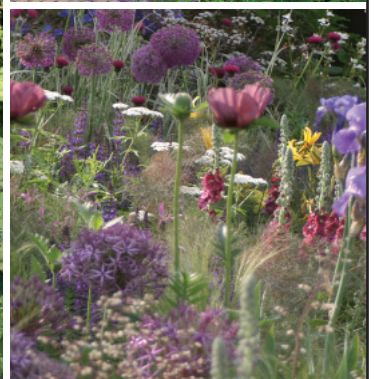
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FEBRUARY DIVERSIONS

1. Who was the mythical Greek god of the sea?
2. Found in the throat, what is unique about the hyoid bone?
3. Which type of bread is named after the Italian for "slipper"?
4. The only country with a capital beginning with the letter "Q"?
5. *Yesterday* is the most covered Beatles song. Which Beatles song is the second most covered?
6. There is only one tombstone in Westminster Abbey on which it is forbidden to walk. Whose is it?
7. "If you find yourself in a hole, stop digging" is a quotation attributed to which British politician?
8. Which famous musical takes place almost entirely in the Kit Kat Club?
9. General Pinochet ruled which country from 1973 to 1990?
10. How many events are there in a heptathlon?
11. In the Bible, at what event did Jesus turn water into wine?
12. Which London underground line goes beneath the Thames the most times (four in all)?
13. Which US president was a peanut farmer?
14. Who was the fictional spy played by Diana Rigg in the *Avengers* TV series?
15. Which UK Prime minister gave his name to a type of travel bag?
16. What football club was formed in 2006 by disenchanted fans of Manchester United?
17. What is the official residence of the Lord Mayor of London?
18. Opened in 1836, which station is London's oldest mainline terminal?
19. Counting from the outside, what is the third colour of a rainbow?
20. What two numbers are worn by the wings in rugby union?
21. Which country officially ceased to exist on Christmas Day 1991?
22. What term is used in cookery for foods cut into long thin strips?
23. The dong is the currency of which Asian country?
24. How was Charles Lutwidge Dodgson better known?
25. What sort of creature is a fritillary?
26. What are you doing if you pandiculate?
27. Can you name the six suspects in the board game *Cluedo*?
28. What is the smallest planet in the solar system?
29. Which musician was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature in 2016?
30. Which musical based on *Romeo & Juliet* won ten Oscars in 1962?

Answers on page 40

Compiled by Tony Baldwin

QUICK CROSSWORD

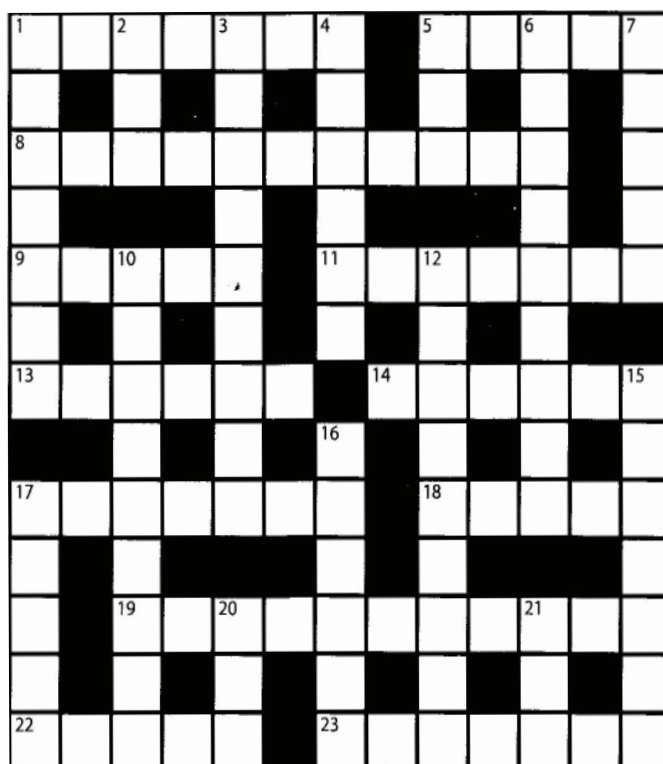
Across

1. To whip or flog (7)
5. Terminus (5)
8. Preserve by chilling (11)
9. Digit (5)
11. Leaving as a guarantee in return for money (7)
13. In need of nourishment (6)
14. Very young children (6)
17. Ask earnestly (7)
18. Projection at the end of a piece of wood (5)
19. Acknowledgment, identification (11)
22. A serf or slave (5)
23. Word formed from the initial letters of a multi-word name (7)

Down

1. Relieve an itch (7)
2. Blockhead (3)
3. Pay back (9)
4. Non-taxable (6)
5. Chemical which carries genetic information (initials) (3)
6. Exactness (9)
7. Fastening, knotting (5)
10. Abnormal (9)
12. More affluent (9)
15. Equivalent word (7)
16. Mark of disgrace (6)
17. Distinctive period of time (5)
20. Baby's bed (3)
21. Particle that is electrically charged (3)

Solution - page 40





PROPERTY WATCH, TIDE TIMETABLE & DIVERSIONS ANSWERS

Property Watch Homes for sale locally

List compiled from Rightmove

Amberley

Church Street 2-bedroom house
(Church View) **£540,000**
(GL&Co, Storrington)

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

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

RACKHAM

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

Wiggonholt

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

Littlehampton Tide Timetable – February

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 1 st | 2 nd | 3 rd | 4 th | 5 th | 6 th |
| | High 01.21 Low 07.21 High 13.34 Low 19.43 | High 02.03 Low 08.03 High 14.17 Low 20.26 | High 02.46 Low 08.50 High 15.04 Low 21.12 | High 03.34 Low 09.41 High 15.55 Low 22.06 | High 04.31 Low 10.43 High 16.58 Low 23.13 | High 05.38 Low 11.58 High 18.13 |
| 7 th | 8 th | 9 th | 10 th | 11 th | 12 th | 13 th |
| Low 00.34 High 06.57 Low 13.17 High 19.42 | Low 01.52 High 08.18 Low 14.28 High 20.59 | Low 02.58 High 09.24 Low 15.28 High 21.59 | Low 03.52 High 10.18 Low 16.18 High 22.51 | Low 04.39 High 11.07 Low 17.02 High 23.37 | Low 05.23 High 11.51 Low 17.45 | High 00.19 Low 06.04 High 12.32 Low 18.24 |
| 14 th | 15 th | 16 th | 17 th | 18 th | 19 th | 20 th |
| High 00.57 Low 06.42 High 13.09 Low 19.01 | High 01.32 Low 07.18 High 13.42 Low 19.35 | High 02.03 Low 07.50 High 14.11 Low 20.07 | High 02.30 Low 08.24 High 14.39 Low 20.42 | High 02.55 Low 08.59 High 15.10 Low 21.17 | High 03.27 Low 09.40 High 15.49 Low 22.01 | High 04.11 Low 10.31 High 16.48 Low 23.00 |
| 21 st | 22 nd | 23 rd | 24 th | 25 th | 26 th | 27 th |
| High 05.23 Low 11.41 High 18.21 | Low 00.18 High 06.55 Low 13.06 High 19.36 | Low 01.51 High 08.04 Low 14.31 High 20.40 | Low 02.58 High 09.01 Low 15.23 High 21.32 | Low 03.43 High 09.48 Low 16.05 High 22.18 | Low 04.24 High 10.32 Low 16.43 High 23.02 | Low 05.02 High 11.15 Low 17.22 High 23.44 |
| 28 th | | | | | | |
| Low 05.41 High 11.57 Low 18.02 | | | | | | |

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

Compiled by Hazel Allinson

Did you know...

A former owner of **Houghton House** was the businesswoman who founded the Body Shop, human rights activist and environmental campaigner, **Anita Roddick**, who died in 2007, having moved from Houghton to Slindon.

William Blake wrote *Jerusalem* while living in a cottage at Felpham (between Bognor and Clymping) from 1800 and 1804.

On the outbreak of war in 1939, **Parham House** became home to 30 evacuee children from Peckham in south-east London. Most had never been to the country before, and owner, the **Hon Clive Pearson**, built them a small wooden house in which to play.

Diversion Answers/Solutions (see page 39)

1. Poseidon 2. It doesn't connect to any other bone in the body 3. Ciabatta
4. Ecuador (capital Quito) 5. "Something" written by George Harrison
6. The unknown soldier 7. Dennis Healey 8. Cabaret 9. Chile 10. Seven
11. The wedding at Cana 12. Jubilee Line 13. Jimmy Carter 14. Emma Peel
15. FC United of Manchester 16. William Gladstone 17. Mansion House
18. London Bridge 19. Yellow 20. 11 and 14 21. The USSR
22. Juliette 23. Vietnam 24. Lewis Carroll 25. Butterfly 26. Yawning
27. Miss Scarlett, Colonel Mustard, Mrs White, Reverend Green, Mrs Peacock & Professor Plum
28. Mercury 29. Bob Dylan 30. *West Side Story*

Crossword solution

Across: 1. Scourge 5. Depot 8. Refrigerate 9. Thumb 11. Pawing
13. Hungry 14. Babies 17. Entreat 18. Tenon 19. Recognition 22. Helot
23. Acronym

Down: 1. Scratch 2. Oaf 3. Reimburse 4. Exempt 5. DNA 6. Precision
7. Tying 10. Unnatural 12. Wealthier 15. Synonym 16. Stigma 17. Epoch

Amberley Neighbourhood Helpline: www.amberleyhelpline.co.uk

AT YOUR SERVICE (LOCAL TRADESMEN & SERVICES)

Accommodation: B&B (graded)

Two Farm Cottages, Rackham Road, Amberley, Janet and Mike Wright
01798 831266

Woodybanks Cottage, Amberley, lovely views across Wildbrooks; private sitting room, AA 4-star silver rating
01798 831295

Accommodation: self-catering

The Roost at Stream Barn, Amberley, Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence. (see advertisement for details)
01798 839320

Catering services

Jane Bellinger, professional *cordon bleu* chef for functions, parties, etc
01798 839433

Cleaning services

Sarah Gardner Residential Cleaning,
01903 745750 / 07979 656795

Computers / technology

Commonsense Computing, advice, set-up and all aspects of support
01798 872624

My Mingo, technology solutions and support, for a fixed price
01903 930633

Domestic assistance

Angela, cleaning, ironing, home- and pet-sitting etc
01798 875575/07552 216819

Electrical sales / repairs / electricians

T M Appliance, sale, servicing and repairs of all domestic appliance
01903 785410

Estate Agents

GL&Co, houses for sale and to rent, free valuations
01903 742354

Jackson-Stops & Co, properties in every location
01903 885886 / 01243 786316

Fencing

Link Fencing, fencing, gates, decking, sheds/bases
01903 742628 / 07398 759550

Garages, car servicing, repairs

Turner's Garage, Bury, MoTs, tyres, exhausts, brakes, batteries, shop
01798 831417

Garden

Rydon Landscapes, garden design and construction
01798 872359 / 07711 663862

We Love Plants, Nic Howard Garden Design, inspirational outdoor spaces
01883 744020

Heating oil / fuel / boiler engineers

Amberley Oil Syndicate, collective buying power for heating oil
01798 831010

M.D. Woodger, all types of domestic boiler maintenance and Agas
01730 894211

Home / household

Dressing Rooms, curtains and hand-made soft furnishings
01903 741251

Hotels / restaurants / cafes / tea rooms

Amberley Castle, country house hotel and restaurant
01798 831992

Amberley Village Tea Room, (currently offering takeaway during lockdown)
01798 839196

Riverside Café, Tea Room and Garden, open daily, 9am-5pm
01798 831066

Logs

Andy Johnson, seasoned hardwood logs cut to size, free kindling with each full load
07793 500129

Painting / decorating

Jonathan Capelin, quality interior and exterior decorator
01798 817402

Richard Sawyer, painter and decorator, roof repairs etc
01403 783115

R J Elliott & Son, complete decorating and maintenance
01903 721360 / 07903 260048

Public houses

The Bridge Inn, Houghton Bridge, bar, snacks, restaurant, garden
01798 831619

The George & Dragon, Houghton, bar, restaurant, terrace and garden
01798 831559

The Sportsman Inn, Crossgates, restaurant, bar, terrace, stunning views
01798 831787

Retail

Amberley Village Pottery, hand-made pottery, gifts etc
01798 831876

Amberley Village Stores, grocery, wines, newspapers, Post Office
01798 831171

Schools

Amberley Primary School, Reception to Year 6
01798 831 612

Dorset House, Bury, independent day and boarding school
01798 831456

Taxis

Amberley Cars, locally-based lady driver, airports etc
01798 831484 / 07939 263495

Well-being

Di Palmer, body control pilates instructor, weekly classes and one-to-one
07767 263493

Marion Scotcher, foot health practitioner home visits by appointment
01798 875588

Robert Sadler, registered osteopath
01798 874736

The Wildbrooks Magazine

THE WILDBROOKS
MAGAZINE



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| Cricket Club | | Pam Keeble.....01798 831050 |
| Member of Parliament | | Grahame Joseph (grahamejoseph@gmail.com).....01798 831340 |
| Millennium Green Trust | | Colin Woods.....01798 831171 |
| Neighbourhood Watch | | Roger Townsend.....01798 831088 |
| Parham Parish Council Clerk | | Valerie Myers (vmyers69@btinternet.com).....01903 742340 |
| Police | | Keith Dalmon.....01798 831887 |
| Rackham Old School Association | | Andrew Griffith (Andrew@GriffithMP.com).....0207 219 4557 |
| Rackham School Hall Reservations | | Jim Endacott.....01798 839186 |
| Society of Amberley Gardening Enthusiasts (SAGE) | | Malcolm Pheasey.....01798 839046 |
| South Downs Way Warden | | Vicky Spiers (clerk@parhamparishcouncil.org).....01903 208943 |
| Stoolball Club | | Non-emergency number.....101 ext 530214 |
| Village Bus | | Sue Bulloch.....01798 872038 |
| Village Lunch Team Leader | | Jennifer Hooper.....01903 742695 |
| Wiggonholt Association | | Rosemary Jackson (rosemaryinsussex@gmail.com) 01903 741644 |
| | | James Tolson (tolsonjab@btinternet.com).....01798 831181 |
| | | Sandra Turner.....01243 821255 |
| | | Philip Greenwood.....01798 831803 |
| | | Sandie Conlon (sandie.conlon@btinternet.com).....01798 839320 |
| | | Janet Aidin (janet@aidin.co.uk).....01798 872531 |



The day is ending, the night descending,

The marsh is frozen, the river dead.

from *Afternoon in February*, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)





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