

DOCKENFIELD

newsletter

News and events from in and around the village of Dockenfield
Issue 273

Published 20 May 2019

Fancy a day at the beach?

Dockenfield Day Saturday 1 June
2-6pm at the Playing Field, Abbots Cottages

It's time to dust down your surfboard and reach for your sunglasses. D Day is just around the corner and the theme this year is **The Beach**. Bring your buckets and spades, your masks and snorkels and meet us at the playing fields on **Saturday 1 June**.

There will be something for everyone at D Day – old favourites such as the coconut shy and the bouncy castle as well as some exciting new additions like the much-anticipated Space Hopper Sprint and Donut Challenge. There'll be the annual tug of war too, the legendary Dockenfield Dog Show, and the brilliant 'Downstairs at Deano's' will be performing again.

All sports and events are free to join in and we work hard to keep the costs of stalls to a minimum. Where else can you try a genuine Human Fruit Machine for as little as 10p a go? So, whether you fancy a cup of tea and a delicious piece of home-made cake, a quiet browse at the book stall, some new plants for the garden or a succulent burger washed down with some locally brewed beer: D Day is the only place to be. Bring your friends and family and join in the fun. Everyone from Dockenfield and the surrounding area is welcome.

(For more details see page 5)

Roly Miles and Nathalie Griffiths



Dockenfield Day: Four hours of non-stop fun for all the family (pictures by Hugh Evans)



Dockenfield Bat Walk

Eight of us gathered on Bealeswood Common on a cool and gloomy evening on 3 May. The threatened rain had stopped and we talked about some of the species of bat we might see in Dockenfield. Using a bat detector device, we heard and saw Pipistrelle and one other species, possibly a Noctule. After a brief look through an infra-red night vision scope we decided to warm up with a drink in The Bluebell.

Everyone very much enjoyed the walk despite the cool weather, so I am planning another walk, when it will hopefully be warmer; possibly in early August. Look out for details in the next DNL. **Steve Luckett**

Pictured top left: Debbie, Linda, Colin, Steve, Philippa, Richard and Yvette studying details of bat species before setting off on the 'Bat' walk. The eighth 'bat man' missing from the shot is Michael, who took the picture.



Princess Beatrice visits the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity

We were thrilled that Princess Beatrice came to Frensham to visit us on Friday 5 April to meet children with dyslexia who are being supported by the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity, of which she is Patron. During the visit she met Pearl, aged 9, (pictured centre left) who said "*I was so excited to meet a Princess. She was really nice and told me that my dyslexia means I think differently in a way that can be very useful*".

She then called in at the home of the charity's founder, Helen Arkell, for a special tea party. Princess Beatrice was able to thank Helen for having done so much for the cause of dyslexia and for establishing the Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity in 1971. For more info visit www.helenarkell.org.uk

Andy Cook



Pygmy goats on the booze? The latest residents at the Bluebell. See page 9

Ever wondered why we have seasons?

Proserpina, the Goddess of Spring was kidnapped by Pluto who forced her to marry him and live with him in the underworld. Pluto hoped that she would learn to love him, but seeing how unhappy she was, he decided to allow her to return to earth for 6 months every year. And so it is that when Proserpina walks the earth the seasons are spring and summer, and when she returns to the underworld, they are autumn and winter. So now you know.

Open Gardens in Dockenfield on 9 June for Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice

For the first time ever, four gardens are being opened to raise money for our local hospice, Phyllis Tuckwell. All four are opening 1 – 5pm on Sunday 9 June. The cost is just £4 per adult at each garden (children under 18 free) or £10 for all four gardens. Both types of ticket can be bought on the day at each garden or the £10 ticket can be bought in advance at The Bluebell pub – available now.

The gardens are Longridge House, Batts Corner (Lesley and Mark Rosling) plus teas; Hilltop Cottage, Batts Corner, opposite the pub (Alex and Richard Potts) plus teas; Jeffrey's Cottage, Bealeswood Lane (Alison and Dan Bosence) plus plant sale; Bugle House, Bealeswood Lane (Sarah and John Stirling) plus dogs on leads. Do come along, and spread the word: all in the name of a very good cause! **Mark Rosling**

Annual Parish Meeting

Tuesday 21 May, 8pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd

If you want to know what is happening in your village then please go along to the Annual Parish Meeting on 21 May. You will get updates on everything that has impacted Dockenfield in the last 12 months as well as a look at what the future may hold. Admission is free, there will be free refreshments and everyone is welcome. **Dockenfield PC**

VILLAGE DIARY *events you won't want to miss*

Date	Time	Event	Venue	Details
Tuesday, 21 May	8pm	Annual Parish Meeting	Church of the Good Shepherd	Page 2
Wednesday, 22 May	Midday	Village Lunch	British Legion	Page 11
Thursday, 23 May	7.30pm for 8pm	Frensham & Dockenfield Horticultural Society	Marindin Hall	Page 8
Tuesday, 28 May	9.30am midday 1pm	'Walking Together' Soup lunch followed by Organ Recital	Meet at St Mary's Church St Mary's Hall and Church	Page 13
Various dates from 1-16 June	11am-5pm daily	Surrey Artists' Open Studios	Jeffreys Cottage and Hursley Cottage	Page 11
Saturday, 1 June	2-6pm	Dockenfield Day	Dockenfield Playing Field, Abbotts Cottages	Pages 1, 5 & 6
Monday, 3 June	3pm	Tea at 3	St Mary's Church Hall	Page 11
Sunday, 9 June	1-5pm	Open Gardens in Dockenfield in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell	Four gardens in Dockenfield	Page 2
Saturday, 15 June	12.45pm	Frensham Fayre	Hollowdene Recreation Ground	Page 7
Tuesday, 18 June	8pm	Dockenfield Parish Council Meeting	Vestry of the Church of Good Shepherd	Page 14
Thursday, 20 June	7.30pm	Millbridge WI	Marindin Hall	Page 13
Friday, 21 June	All day	Outing to Woolbeding Garden, Midhurst	Meet at coach pick up points	Page 8
Friday, 21 June	7pm	Midsummer Supper	Church of the Good Shepherd	Pages 4 & 16
Saturday, 22 June	6pm	Vivaldi Singers	St Mary's Church	Page 10
Tuesday, 25 July	9.30am midday 1pm	'Walking Together' Soup lunch followed by Organ Recital	Meet at St Mary's Church St Mary's Hall and Church	Page 13
Wednesday, 26 June	Midday	Village Lunch	British Legion	Page 11
Thursday, 27 June	7.30pm for 8pm	Frensham & Dockenfield Horticultural Society	Marindin Hall	Page 8
Saturday, 29 June	7pm	Charity Skittles Evening	The British Legion	Page 13
Saturday, 29 June	7pm	Midsummer Ceilidh Ball	Blacknest Golf Club	Page 4
Monday, 1 July	3pm	Tea at 3	St Mary's Church Hall	Page 11
Tuesday, 16 July	8pm	Dockenfield Parish Council Meeting	Vestry of the Church of Good Shepherd	Page 14
Thursday, 18 July	7.30pm	Millbridge WI	Marindin Hall	Page 13
Tuesday, 23 July	9.30am midday 1pm	'Walking Together' Soup lunch followed by Organ Recital	Meet at St Mary's Church St Mary's Hall and Church	Page 13
Wednesday, 24 July	Midday	Village Lunch	British Legion	Page 11
Friday, 18 October	7pm	Dockenfield Skittles Evening	The Jolly Farmer pub, Blacknest	Page 11

Cuckoo Clock 2019

In 2018 the first report of a cuckoo was on 4 April but this year the first time it has been heard was a couple of days later. The complete 2019 Cuckoo Clock is:

6 April: and the first cuckoo of the season is heard at Manor Farm, Old Lane by Jessica Blowers at the early hour of 5.30am (an early riser catches the bird!)

7 April: in Old Lane; heard by Harvey Ricketts, again around Manor Farm

11 April: also at Manor Farm, Old Lane; heard by Jo Paull who then heard two more on the 15th near Temple Pool

12 April: heard at Great Holt by Anne Tutt and then near Abbotts Cottages at 6pm by Jason Gibbs

16 April: over Bealeswood Common; heard at 4.30pm by Jack and Marjorie Bessant from different locations in the village

16 April: and hey, how about this? Ian Hewitt not only heard a cuckoo at Great Holt today, but saw it as well

18 April: a busy day for the cuckoo as it was heard first at Frensham Common by Fiona Ricketts; at lunchtime in Bealeswood Lane by Dan Bosence; and then in the afternoon, heard in Spreakley by Nick Houston

19 April: Olly and Jo Rogers of Batts Corner heard their first cuckoo call of the year saying that *'it sounds like it's living on Bealeswood Common'*. And earlier the same day, and from the house directly opposite, Roger Trout heard the distinctive call

20 April: heard first by Jeff Powell whilst walking along King's Ridge at 11.30am; then in Bealeswood Lane by Stephanie Houghton from Tilford; and at 5pm around Abbotts Cottages by Diana and Harold Parratt. Meanwhile Andy Cook says *'I heard the cuckoo for the first time this year over at Greenwood House in Frensham at 2pm on Saturday 20th. . . . then, oddly, it started cuckooing again at 3am in the morning. . . hopefully it won't do that too often'*

21 April: on Bealeswood Common; heard by Steve Lockett (two days earlier than he heard it last year)

22 April: another busy day for the cuckoo as Lene Rasmussen of Bealeswood Lane heard it at Blacknest in the late morning; and then in the afternoon Michael and Debbie Foster, also from Bealeswood Lane, heard it singing towards Hatch Pond

29 April: and it's Lesley Rosling's turn to hear not one but probably two cuckoos at Batts Corner *'one to the west of us and one over the road to the north'*

30 April: that cuckoo is back in Bealeswood Lane; heard this time by Janette Platt. Meanwhile Colin Hall not only heard but saw a cuckoo in West End Lane whilst Philippa Hall heard one (maybe the same bird?) near Spreakley at around the same time

1 May: and the cuckoo is now at Great Holt; heard by Sandy Taylor who says: *'It's always a joy to hear that distinctive call, for yet another year.'*

Midsummer Supper

Friday 21 June, 7pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd

We hope you will be coming along to our very special 'Midsummer Supper' on Friday 21 June at The Good Shepherd, with 50% of the funds going to St Mary's Frensham Trust, 25% to the Friends of Frensham Churches and 25% to the refurbishment fund for the Church of the Good Shepherd. There's something in it for everyone! Good food and drink, good company and good after dinner entertainment assured, including Mared Morant (nee Evans) who has agreed to sing with Mike Smith accompanying her on the piano. This promises to be a terrific evening, so please join us. Tickets cost £17.50 (to include the cost of your first drink) and can be reserved by completing the form on page 16.

Jane Wood and David Millais

Midsummer Ceilidh Ball

In aid of Phyllis Tuckwell; Saturday 29 June at Blacknest Golf Club

A Midsummer Ceilidh Ball is being held at The Blacknest Golf and Country Club on 29 June to support Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice Care in their 40th Anniversary Year. Many of us have - or may have - cause to be grateful for the excellent care and support they provide.

A fun evening at a lovely venue with a buffet supper and raffle is promised with dancing to The Caledonian Reelers. Don't worry if you don't know the dances - we have a band and an excellent caller, Simon Wales. Thanks to our kind and generous sponsors for supporting this worthwhile cause.

For tickets at £30.00 and more information please email: gillhaydenwoods@btinternet.com or call **Gill Hayden-Woods** on 07887 637140 or **Rona McArdle** on 07979 524901.

Dockenfield Day

Saturday 1 June

The pint-sized fete, with the big, big heart

Dockenfield 'Spends a Day at the Beach'

Saturday 1 June Fete: 2-6pm at the Playing Field, Abbotts Cottages

Dockenfield Day needs...

Your help: In order to make it all happen, we need lots of help. Whether you can do something in advance or help on the day, many hands are needed to make sure we can run everything safely and successfully. If you are able to, please help out – in whatever capacity. Please note that this year we really need **face painters** and people that are confident working on a **BBQ** for an hour, if you are then please email Roly Miles (roly.miles@claremont.co.uk).

Your gazebos: We really need to borrow these for the day if we may.....hopefully the sun will shine but it's good to be prepared...

Your staff: Dockenfield Day doesn't depend on commercial stalls brought in from outside to pay the bills. Our main earners are the local stalls that depend on the generosity of residents. So, if you have anything you can donate to the following stalls, please leave the items at one of the following 'Drop Off Points':

Garden Plants*	Dan Bosence, Jeffreys Cottage, Bealeswood Lane or Pam Hibbert, Manor House, Old Lane	Tel: 792442 Tel: 792573
Tombola Prizes	Joolz Miles, Orchard End, Bealeswood Lane	Tel: 07833 355359
Books/DVDs/Music/Paintings**	Mark Rosling, Longridge, Batts Corner	Tel: 794090
Raffle Prizes	Debbie Foster, Farm Cottage, Bealeswood Lane	Tel: 792142
Toys	Amanda Smith, Thicket End, High Thicket Road	Tel: 793111
Cakes on the Day	Please just bring your sumptuous cakes down on the day	

* Please remember, we can only sell plants that look healthy! So they need potting up as soon as possible not at the last minute or we can't sell them. If you are purchasing plants please bring your own plastic bags and boxes.

** Includes paintings, pictures, prints and other wall hangings.

Roly Miles

So many things to see and do

We've got loads of things going on this year, for all ages, including:

Punch and Judy/ Magic show	Balloon Modelling	Garden Plants
Bouncy Castle and Surfboard Simulator	Children's Races	Ice Cream
Space Hopper Sprint	All day BBQ	Toy Stall
Bar and Real Ale	Treasure Hunt	Tug of War
Bash the Rat	Book Stall/Music/Paintings	Fun Dog Show
Coconut Shy	Tombola	Crafts
Tea and Cakes	Face Painting	Human Fruit Machine
Frensham Village Shop	Fancy Dress	Raffle

Programme of Events

Timings are approx

2pm	Fete opens
2.05pm	Stalls open
2.05-2.30pm	Music from "Downstairs at Deano's"
2.30-3pm	Punch and Judy
3-3.30pm	Balloon Modelling
3.15pm	Fun Dog Show (all dogs welcome, please arrive by 3.05pm)
3.30-4pm	Magic Show
4-4.30pm	Children's races
4.30-5pm	Tug of War contests
5pm	Raffle draw, Children's Parade & Prize Giving
5-6pm	Music from "Downstairs at Deano's"
6pm	Close

Additional information on Dockenfield Day

* This year's Fancy Dress Competition. It's up to you how you come dressed, so have your arm bands and beach hats at the ready! We'll be running the usual competition for age categories: 5 and under, 6-11, 12-17. And all the stallholders are asked to participate in the fun.

* Stallholders. Can stallholders please be sure that they are available to set up, run and tidy their stall? Stallholders are also encouraged to dress up in an appropriate costume.

* Parking. Please could we ask stallholders and villagers not to occupy all the parking spots near the fete so that visitors have plenty of places to park their cars.

* Alcohol will be on sale to over 18s only. No spirits will be sold, nor should any be brought in. No alcohol should be bought, brought in or consumed by under 18s.

If you want to know more about how you can help, then please contact me, **Roly Miles**, on my e-mail Roly.Miles@Claremont.co.uk.

Frensham Village Shop – seeking new Committee Members

Have you thought about being a member of the Shop Committee? Or can you think of someone you might encourage to do so?

We are at an exciting point, with well-developed plans to renew the shop this Summer. We will be introducing new ranges, extended hours and a new shop layout - all aimed at responding to our customers' feedback and seeking to broaden and deepen our role for as many people as possible in the community.

The Committee meets quarterly and oversees the operation of the shop. Each member has specific roles and we are particularly keen to recruit two new members;

- **Minutes Secretary:** Liz Glover has just completed 6 years in this role and we are looking for someone to take it on. It involves scheduling the quarterly meeting, coordinating the agenda, recording minutes, action points and generally keeping us in good order! Also covers the organisation of business covered at the Annual General Meeting.
- **Marketing and Communication:** This is not a formal 'Officer' position, but is an opportunity to make a real impact, not least when we are seeking to get the message of the shop changes out to as many people as possible - how do we encourage lapsed/ non-customers to try out the shop and even encourage our loyal customers to buy more. How do we encourage people to look at us afresh while maintaining what is most appreciated? And what channels of communication should we use, from stalwarts like the Parish Magazine and Dockenfield Newsletter to the new possibilities of digital and social media?

You will be able to check out the profiles of the other Committee Members on our renewed Website which is due imminently... but in the meantime if you would like to discuss either of the above roles we would love to hear from you. For a preliminary, 'no commitment' chat then please e-mail rogerholmes@mac.com or speak to anyone on the Committee.

Roger Holmes, Chairman

More News from Frensham Village Shop

We're looking forward to meeting you at **Dockenfield Day**, and you'll be able to ask Paul about our plans for the future whilst buying goodies from our stall. We'll have a range of speciality breads from the Hungry Guest and Good Taste Bakeries including Potato and Rosemary Loaves (deliciously moist and aromatic) to The Petworth (locally grown and milled whole wheat grain), Cupsmith coffees from Dippenhall, as well as the popular FVS preserves, and a 'tuck shop' with a wide range of pick-your-own sweets.

And now another plea for specialist volunteers. Can YOU help US?

1. In the last DNL we asked for volunteers to help occasionally with **newspaper merchandising and admin** on a rota. It's not a huge commitment time-wise, but we're still looking!
2. On Saturday mornings we have a tray of speciality breads and croissants from the Hungry Guest Bakery, and display them on the counter. Could **YOU** join the rota, preparing the display as creatively as you wish, to tempt all-comers? It takes about 20 minutes, from 8am, once a month. Bakers, gardeners, flower arrangers, quilters, anyone feeling creative – all welcome!

As a Community Shop we rely heavily on our volunteers. Without them, the costs of supporting our Post Office, for example, would be unsustainable, and we wouldn't be planning for longer opening hours on both counters. Please come and join our wonderful team.

To learn more, please speak to Paul in the shop or call 01252 795240.

Mayonne Coldicott

Letters to the Editor

Fond memories triggered by DNL

I have just reread the latest edition (272). It is always fun; in fact, it reminds me of the 'Miss Read' books on village life.

Rosemary Steel, DNL reader in Peterborough

Thank you, Barry and Poppy

Dear old Dockenfield is most definitely the best place to live. Recently, when I was riding locally and lost my balance, Barry and Poppy Gritt stopped and sorted out the horse and me! Both went out of their way and with a cheerful manner. We are all so lucky to be living among such kind folk!

Annabelle Sutton

Walking for Macmillan

Wendy and Rosie McCann are walking 26 miles on 8 June to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Care. They will be taking part in the Macmillan Mighty Hike and walking along the south coast from Brighton to Eastbourne.

If you would like to support this worthwhile cause then please head to their Justgiving page to make a donation and show your support. Wendy and Rosie would like to thank you for your generosity. www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wendyandrosiemightyhike

Wendy McCann

Frensham Fayre

Saturday 15 June at Hollowdene

The countdown has started! With just five weeks to go, our clowns, ringmasters, strongmen and tight rope walkers are limbering up, ready for the opening Parade. This year will be our best yet as we're welcoming More House Band, St Mary's School, Edgeborough School and the Brownies to join in the fun from 12:45pm at Hamlash Lane. This year we're excited to announce a very special guest...Dumbo! He's flying in for one day only and you'll have a chance to meet him. What's more, his friend Rico the clown will be running our circus school, which is open to everyone – stilt walking, giant bubble blowing, juggling and more!

All the returning favourites are coming: the dog show; pony rides; Punch and Judy and for the thrill seekers – the bungee! If that's not enough, there will be tons of quality gifts, crafts and bargains to buy from the huge array of stalls, a classic car display as well as some of the tastiest food and drink Frensham has to offer.

This year we're again helping local Farnham-based charities, some of whom wouldn't be able to open their doors without our essential support. Join the fun and support your local community.

Children's art - children of all ages are invited to express their artistic talent in any medium. So, whether your child fancies getting potty with painting, crafty with collage, or nifty with needlework, we'd love to see their masterpieces! Enter through your child's school or contact Emma Sargeant sargeant.emma@hotmail.co.uk

Calling all stallholders - we are now taking bookings! Still retaining its 'village feel' and with a good mix of stalls and events, the Frensham Fayre attracts hundreds of visitors throughout the day in search of a great family day out. Contact Sharon Turner: sharonaturner@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

Classic Car Display - entries are now open to showcase your classic car. Join a range of classics from the 1930s through to the 1970s, including Aston Martin, Rolls Royce and many more. Contact Geoff King on 07903 470613.

Dog Show - from Chihuahuas to Great Danes, this is a dog show for all shapes and sizes to show off their good looks and agility. So, limber-up your pooch and get in touch: frenshamfayre2@btinternet.com

Visit www.frenshamfayre.co.uk or follow us on Facebook for more information.

Amanda Jones

Alan Bain

The Newsletter was very sad to hear of the death of Alan Bain on 1 May, after a long illness. Born in Eltham, Kent in November 1928, Alan and his wife Pauline moved to Dockenfield in April 1988 where they loved to get involved the community. Alan was Vice-President of Frensham Cricket Club, and he and Pauline were distributors of DNL for over 20 years. Pauline and he had been married since 1951; they had three sons, Andrew, Christopher and Nicholas, and six grandchildren.

Alan served in the army, stationed in Germany after the war with the Royal Artillery, before beginning a career as an electrical engineer. Having taken retirement from his company, Alan then set up his own business in a similar line of work.

On behalf of every one in Dockenfield, DNL sends love and best wishes to Pauline and all the family. Alan's funeral will be held at St Mary's Church, Frensham, on Thursday 30 May at 11am.

Frensham and Dockenfield Horticultural Society

The main events on the horizon for the Society are plant stalls at D Day (1 June, see pages 1 & 5) and Frensham Fayre (15 June, see page 7) on Hollowdene. Each year we are delighted that people donate plants they have grown for us to sell and we look forward to receiving more this year to stock our stalls. For D Day contact me on dwjbosence@btinternet.com or 792442 and for Frensham Fayre contact Caroline Plant on caroline.tonkinxxx@gmail.com or 793991. We are also happy if you bring them along on the morning of the day or the early afternoon. Please ensure they are labelled and in good condition to ensure we can sell them and we get satisfied returning customers.

For D Day there is a good range of flowering perennials and shrubs already potted up to bring colour and interest to your borders and we shall have our normal range of bedding plants. Vegetable plants are already growing for you including: winter greens (sprouts, kale flower sprouts, purple sprouting broccoli and summer broccoli), globe artichokes, squash, cucumbers, courgettes, leeks, sweet corn, runner beans, climbing French beans, bell peppers and chillies, parsley and, in anticipation of another long hot summer, a large range of tomatoes (Alicante, Moneymaker, Gardener's Delight, Sungold, Red Cherry, Corazon, Marmande and San Morzano plums), plus some tayberry and red current plants.

This is the very last call for bookings to Woolbeding Garden in Midhurst on Friday **21 June**: The coach is booked and there is still room for a few more. We have secured an afternoon group booking to the garden, and as we have a coach we can avoid queueing for the shuttle bus from Midhurst. Remember, you do not need to be a member of the Society to join this trip and you can also invite family and friends. Lunch, tea and coffee are available in the lovely Orchard Café. Prices: National Trust members £15.00, non - NT members £23.10. Contact Suzanne McLean for further details and bookings (Tel: 792231, e: suzanne.mclean07@btinternet.com).

Later in June we shall be holding our Rose Evening (7.30pm Marindin Hall, **27 June**) when members will be showing us their best roses with an accompanying ploughman's dinner. Always a lively and enjoyable evening where we can vote for the prize-winning roses.

Dan Bosence

William Cobbett, son of Farnham

This is the second and final instalment of Val Lewis's article on William Cobbett. The first appeared in DNL Edition 272, page 14. If anyone missed that and would like a copy then just email: michael.foster66@btinternet.com and I will forward it to you.

Rural concerns and Rural Rides

Cobbett agitated for the poor when the government maintained that popular unrest was fuelled by subversive elements among the labouring classes. He pointed out that unemployment and hunger were more likely causes. *'I defy you to agitate any fellow with a full stomach,'* he wrote. In 1816 he circulated the *Political Register* in an affordable cheap edition which avoided the heavy taxes levied on ordinary newspapers. (In later years the paper was bought by the Hansard family and it became the official record of parliamentary proceedings.)

Cobbett attempted and failed twice to be elected as a Member of Parliament. In 1821, seeking further employment, he began his famous tours of the English countryside, which led to the publication of *Rural Rides*, celebrating the English landscape and championing the rural traditions being destroyed by the Industrial Revolution. The book was fairly hastily put together (Cobbett was short of money), yet it is the one for which he is best remembered, even by those who have not read it.

In 1830 farm workers in southern England rioted in protest at their low wages. Cobbett defended them and was prosecuted for sedition in 1831 by the Whig government, but won his case. Many rioters were not so fortunate. About 1,000 were deported to Australia, and 252 were sentenced to death. Cobbett supported the increasing public demand for parliamentary reform and in 1832, the year of the great Reform Act, he was elected as M.P. for Oldham. He was 69. However, he did not take to parliamentary work, and spent more time on his farm in Normandy, near Guildford. He died there of influenza in 1835. He had been planning to write a play. It was going to be called *Bastards in High Places*.

Farnham, his final resting place

Cobbett is buried in a grave near the north door of St Andrew's Church, and there is a medallion bust of him under the canopy of the church tower. In 2016 Dame Penelope Keith unveiled a splendid bronze statue of Cobbett which stands in Long Bridge.

On his death Thomas Carlyle described William Cobbett as *'the pattern John Bull of his century, strong as a rhinoceros, and with singular humanities and genialities shining through his thick skin.'*

Val Lewis

News from all the pubs, clubs and hotels in the Parish

Ahead of each edition I email the Bluebell and all of the other pubs, clubs and hotels in the Parish to ask for news including information of any live music or other special events they may be hosting and list them below if given. Where I have received no information, the venue is listed so you can check any events with them direct.

The Bluebell, Dockenfield: (Tel: 792801; www.bluebell-dockenfield.com)

We have some baby goats (*picture, page 2*); and we made it through Easter! It has been lovely to see so many of you.

Father's Day: is on Sunday 16 June. Call and book early to avoid disappointment.

Our **Lunch Menu**, with one course for £7, two courses for £11 and three courses for £13 is still proving extremely popular during the week and is available Monday-Friday (excl bank holidays)

The **Thursday 'Burger and a Pint' deal** (£10 for a plain burger, £12 for a Bluebell Burger) is going well too.

'Men's Night': takes place at the pub every 2nd Thursday in the month, starting from 8pm, so the next two dates are **13 June** and **11 July**. 'Men's Night' of course is one occasion when you can take advantage of the 'Burger and a Pint for £10 deal'. To get onto the regular 'Men's Night' emailing list please contact Mark Rosling: markrosling@outlook.com.

'Ladies' Night': happens on the last Thursday of every month. So, the next three dates are: **30 May; 27 June; 25 July** from 8pm. For more info and to be added to the 'Ladies' Night' email circulation list please contact Nicola Hames (nicolabb@gmail.com). Nicola has also agreed with the Bluebell that instead of the 'Burger and a Pint' for £10, the Bluebell would happily substitute the pint for a small glass of red or white wine.

Thanks as always for your support!

Lucy, Robin and The Bluebell team x

Frensham Royal British Legion Club and Branch (Tel: 793014)

Forthcoming events

Saturday 29 June, 7pm: Charity skittles evening with fish and chip supper Please contact **Tricia Matson** on 01428 712421 for tickets or more details. (see also page 13)

Craft Brews @ Frensham Brewery (Tel: 07774982174 www.craftbrews.uk)

Taproom regular opening hours: Friday and Saturday 12 to 6 pm plus special events. Drink in or to takeaway beer. Takeaway beer in bag-in-box system will last 7-10 days. It can be bought in 3, 5, 10, 20 litre boxes. If you are planning a special occasion, consider using the taproom or buying a cask of beer for you and your guests.

Upcoming events:

Friday 7 June: Curry and a Pint Night. Sprinkle of Saffron provide a two-course curry complemented by one of our beers (alternative drink of wine/Prosecco/soft drinks available). To see the menu and to book a place, please visit the website.

Friday 5 July: Curry and a Pint Night. Sprinkle of Saffron provide a two-course curry complemented by one of our beers (alternative drink of wine/Prosecco/soft drinks available). To see the menu and to book a place, please visit the www.craftbrews.uk/shop. *For more information on all these events please visit the website above*

Joe Wood

The Frensham Pond Country House Hotel and Spa (Tel: 795161, www.frenshampondhotel.co.uk)

The Holly Bush, Frensham (Tel: 447060 www.thehollybush.co.uk)

The Hare and Hounds, Rowledge (Tel: 01252 792287)

Fancy a good walk?

Would you enjoy a short walk that is full of historical and architectural interest and curiosity? And one that raises money for charity. Yup, thought so. It's the Farnham Town Guided Walk, and it takes place once a month starting at 11am from the Wagon Yard Car Park (that's the one in Downing Street with the New Ashgate gallery in it). Cost is £4 which all goes to local charities, and from our experience the guides are very knowledgeable about our local town. The dates for the rest of 2019 are 2 June; 7 July; 4 August; 1 September; 6 October; 3 November; and 1 December.

Alternatively, every Friday the National Trust run a free guided walk around Hindhead Common and the Devil's Punchbowl, starting from the Visitor Centre at 11am. The guide will show you some of the site's best views, the places of historic significance and share little known stories of the past.

There is no need to book for either walk.

News from your churches:

Thank you to everybody who attended the Annual Parishioners Council meeting (APCM) recently. I am delighted and privileged to be re-elected to represent everyone in the parish for another year as your Churchwarden. Since Richard Potter has retired, I will be your only Churchwarden this year so it would be really lovely to welcome more people to our church team of volunteers who help to run the churches on a daily basis.

Sorry to keep banging the drum but we are still keen to welcome more volunteers onto the mowing rota for the churchyard of The Good Shepherd. As you may know, we mow the grass every two weeks from March to early October and this is done by a great team of Dockenfield volunteers who give up about 2 hours of their time once a year to cut the grass. If you would like to help us please contact Eunice for more details.

I hope that those of you who came to any (or all!) of the Easter services found them uplifting and that you were able to fully appreciate your faith journey through Lent into Easter. In these times of uncertainty and anguish in the world it is so wonderful to find safety and hope in our community with Jesus Christ.

And Easter is not over yet. Not until Ascension Day on Thursday **30 May** when we will be holding a service at 7.30pm at St Mary's. This festival remembers Christ's bodily ascension into heaven on the fortieth day after his resurrection. Jesus is taken up from the disciples in their sight, where he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. As the disciples watched Him go, two angels appeared and declared to them that, just as He ascended, Jesus would return in glory.

Ten days after Ascension Day (the seventh Sunday after Easter) we celebrate Pentecost which is on Sunday **9 June**, and commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles and other followers of Jesus Christ. This holy day is also called "White Sunday" or Whit Sunday. Rev'd Jane will be away on a well-deserved holiday but we will still be celebrating this festival at the 10.30am service at St Mary's being led by Morag James and myself.

The church will be running the Burger stall again this year at the **Frensham Fayre** on **15 June**. It is a really fun day so do go along and enjoy the fun and visit our stall for delicious sausages and burgers.

St Mary's Frensham Trust are holding their Midsummer Supper on **21 June** (see page 4).

The Vivaldi Singers are performing at St Mary's church on **Saturday 22 June**. This is the first of two concerts, performing music through the ages. They will be looking at music from Bach to Beethoven and many composers in between. The second concert is also at St Mary's on **Saturday 23 November**. Tickets available from their website www.vivaldisingers.com: Full Price £10, Students/Under 16s £5, Under 5s Free. Ticket Offer: Book both concerts (Baroque to Beethoven and Beethoven and Beyond) for £15 Full Price, Students/Under 16s £7.50.

Finally, you should be aware that the parish is projecting a budget deficit of £9,000 for 2019. This is largely due to the increase in the annual payment (Parish Share) that we have to pay to the Diocese each year together with a decline in donations. This Parish Share funds our parish priest and other central resources/services. Every penny has to be raised by us; we receive no funding from anywhere else. It costs us £220 a day to run both the churches of St Mary's and The Good Shepherd. Consequently we are constantly looking at innovative ways of generating funds, be that hiring out the churches, fundraising events, and now a new initiative called Easyfundraising.

Easyfundraising is a great website where you can help us raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 3,600 big name retailers like Amazon, Tesco, Sainsburys, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S. You can shop online via your desktop, laptop, tablet or on your mobile phone.

For desktops, laptops and tablets go to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/thebenoffren/> AND if you download the reminder tool you will never miss the chance to raise free funds. Visit <http://efraising.org/Z0Co76Oc8q> to download this tool. Shop on your mobile? No problem just visit the App Store and download the Easyfundraising app to your phone. Remember you have to go through the app to make your purchase.

I have already accumulated more than £15 for the churches just by using the Easyfundraising website. If we all do this it will soon add up to be quite a considerable amount.

We look forward to welcoming you to one of your churches soon.

Eunice King, Churchwarden: eunice.king@frenshamchurches.org.uk

Surrey Artist Open Studios

Jeffreys Cottage, Bealeswood Lane

Look out for the orange signs and balloons all over Surrey for two weeks in June! This is an invitation to drop in and see art and craft work in people's homes and studios, all for free.

You can see a guide for the county (in libraries, galleries etc), or go to <http://www.surreyopenstudios.org.uk/event/> for details of opening times and directions.

Once again, we'll be taking part at Jeffreys Cottage in Bealeswood Lane, Dockenfield, with four visiting artists. We can promise a friendly welcome to see our working methods as well as work for sale: come and visit, watch and chat. This year, we are open **8, 9, 13, 14, 15 and 16 June from 11am-5pm each day**. And on Sunday **9 June** we're also fundraising for the Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice by opening the garden as well. *See page 2 for full details.*

Ruth Taylor will be painting landscapes, **Shirley Stephens** lino-printing cards and pictures, and **Alison Ellen** dyeing wool for her knitwear in her studio. **Ruta Brown** shows sculptural jewellery, and **Justine Jenner** her colourful mugs and pots for everyday use, demonstrating on a potter's wheel. Shirley and Alison will be running short workshops on Friday 14 June; please tel: 792442 for details.

This year, we are also part of the Hampshire Borders 'trail' of studios, which includes Jean Heathcote in Dockenfield with her paintings (see below), and others from surrounding villages.**Alison and Dan Bosence**

Hursley Cottage, Lake Lane

Jean Heathcote will be opening her studio at Hursley Cottage on **1,2,8,9,13,14,15,16 June from 11am-5pm daily**. Everyone is welcome (including children and dogs) to view and to buy her pictures in oils and cards printed from the original.

Dockenfield Skittles 2019

Friday 18 October at 7pm, at the Jolly Farmer

Quite simply this is a lovely evening out, socialising with friends and neighbours mixed in with some friendly competition. There are plenty of prizes and the chance to win the coveted Mansell Cup. Please book as soon as possible as there is a limit on numbers and places always fill up quickly. You don't have to live in Dockenfield to attend; everyone is welcome.

Please contact me with your bookings together with your cheque and menu choices. The booking form is on page 16. Or email me (katy.poulsom@btconnect.com). The cost is just £16pp (cheques payable to K Poulsom) to include food, for which there are following options (all served with chips, except the potato which is accompanied by a mixed salad) - Battered cod; Chicken, ham & leek pie; Pork & chorizo burger; Wholetail scampi; Falafel & spinach burger (v); Jacket potato with cheese and baked beans (*please indicate on the booking form your food choice and quantity*). **Katy Poulsom**

Mike the Milkman

Word has reached DNL that Mike (the village milkman) has just returned from having glandular fever and wants to let his customers know he is sorry for the inconvenience to them and loss of service due to his absence over the past few weeks. Apparently, he is still recovering so maybe delivering a little later in the day than usual.

Village Lunch

Wednesdays 23 May, 26 June and 24 July, midday at the British Legion

The next Village Lunches are on the following dates with the charities benefitting from the raffle and sales tables shown alongside.

23 May: the menu is casserole and the charity is the Pilgrim Project

26 June: the menu is sausage and mash, but for this month sadly there is no charity represented. If you know of a charity that would like to have this month's slot do contact Diana Parratt on 01252 794168

24 July: the menu is ham salad and the charity being supported is Church Flowers

Dates for (local) fetes

Bank Holiday Monday, **27 May:** Rowledge Village Fayre

Saturday, **1 June:** Dockenfield Day

Saturday, **8 June:** Churt Fete

Saturday, **15 June:** Frensham Fayre

Saturday, **6 July:** The Bourne Show

Saturday, **13 July:** Tilford Fete

Tea At 3

Please make a note of the next dates for Tea at 3 which are: **3 June** and **1 July**. Everyone is welcome to come and join us at St Mary's Church hall. For further information please contact **Morag James**, Tel: 793133.

The cost of DNL

During the financial year just finished, six editions of DNL were published with an average print run of 260 copies, all at 16 pages in size.

The only cost for DNL is print and paper as neither the Editor, the contributors nor the distributors claim payment or expenses of any kind. That cost totalled £762 for the year, or 49p per copy per household. This is paid for by Dockenfield Parish Council as they consider it an important asset to the community.

Sheepy shenanigans

It was horrendous weather for my drive to work. Gusty winds, muddy roads, the whole kit and caboodle. What if I skid? Are high gears good; low gears bad? What if trees collapse; old ladies with dodgy brollies galumph across roads; livestock is on the loose; even maybe a sheep with a glint in its eye and a hijacking game plan.

In fact, it was the sheep which scuppered me. Determined to hitch a lift and entrapping me with its sneaky guerrilla tactics. Not funny. Have you tried to heave a sheep out of your car? They're seriously heavy, floppy, uncooperative. Imagine one snuggled into your lap, stertorously breathing into your left ear, when you're trying to get to work?

I'd driven gingerly, then suddenly saw a dozen soaked sheep wallowing around in thick mud, inviting disaster. I nipped out to shoo them away, but stupidly left my car door ajar. When I got back, there, basking, happy as Larry and with wide toothy grin, was a large furry sheep who'd somehow sneaked into the driving seat. Hadn't seen that one coming.

I heaved, pulled and yanked, mustered up choice swear words: zilch. It just baaed benignly and rolled its eyes. Get out, you great lump I said, tugging and panicking - hopeless, so changed tack. I must jolt it out of the driving seat; try and find its farm. I'll push not pull, I thought. That'll fox it. So shoved, tried to roll it over, but it just sagged there smirking, rubbing my face and snuffling. I could tell, really tell, it was laughing.

My feet slipped, I toppled forward and slammed my face into a wodge of wet greasy wool. Yukky. 'Baaa' said the sheep lovingly, snuggling closer. Help, I thought, she's going to wrap me up and cuddle me. Then unexpected capitulation, and I managed to bundle most of its bottom onto the passenger seat, and leapt in. It sighed, put both paws on my lap, its head on my shoulder, gazed soulfully into my eyes and burped. Double yuk. What had it had for breakfast? Shove off, I said, pushing. It shifted and murmured soft baas, licked my left ear and whuffled happily.

I'd got to dump it. I couldn't arrive at my job at a stately home whilst chauffeuring a dirty old sheep with a warped sense of humour. What's more, I might be had up for sheep napping - though reckoned that actually I was the nappee.

I creaked into first gear, though had a few indelicate problems groping for second, then we juddered along until at last, success, and were greeted by farm hands who rolled around cracking up with laughter. My ovine inamorata immediately hopped out looking smug. And suddenly light dawned. I'd been stitched up; rolled up hook, line and sinker. She'd organised the whole caper, hated the mud and rain, didn't actually need a 5-minute kip in my car, but wanted home - and needed transport. I'd been manipulated, hoofered, out smarted by a smiley 200 lb bundle of fur. How embarrassing was that?

Seething, I fled, enveloped in a distinct whiff of eau de mouton, away from chaos, longing for tranquillity, affluence, elegance. But in the stately home milieu, I struck an unsavoury note, so scrubbed away the sheepy niff, the sticky lickiness and greasy bits of wool, and luxuriated in soapy country house fragrance. Emerged de-sheeped, super sparkly, meet and greet face plastered on, ready for the fray. Even a bunch of tourists would be a doddle after the morning I'd just had.

**Jane Pearson, a previous Editor of DNL now living on the Isle of Wight and acting as DNL's
'Overseas Editor'**

Please help me raise money for the St Mary's Frensham Trust

On Sunday 2 June I will be taking part in a triathlon being held in the grounds of Blenheim Palace to raise money for St Mary's Frensham Trust. I am sure that you are all aware that St Mary's Frensham Trust is a charity providing a Fund for the Parishioners of Frensham and Dockenfield to support your chosen charities worldwide. The triathlon is a sprint distance and consists of a 750m open water swim in the lake, followed by a 20k cycle around the 'undulating' grounds of the palace before finishing off with a 5k run.

I hope that through my efforts in completing this Triathlon I will be able to raise funds for the Trust to invest. I know that whilst I am swimming, running and cycling however difficult it may be, the money that I am raising will be used to good effect and help many other charities for years to come. If you feel able to support me please visit: <https://uk.virgingmoneygiving.com/janesTRI>. Thank you, in advance, your support will help me to complete the course.

Jane Wood – Trustee, St Mary's Frensham Trust

Monthly Organ Recitals

The next Organ Recital in St Mary's Church will be played by Rob Goldfinch on Tuesday **28 May** starting at 1pm. Rob's programme will include music by J.S.Bach, Richard Strauss, Jacques Lemmens, Giovanni Martini, Joseph Bonnet, Alfred Hollins, Percy Whitlock and also one of Rob's own arrangements. The organist of Thursley Church, Rob is an exciting local organist and this will be his first recital on the organ in St Mary's. Do come and give him your support and hear some rousing and accessible organ music played on one of the finest organs in the area!

Delicious homemade soup with rolls will be available from 12pm in the Church Hall. There is no charge for either soup or recital, but donations (gift-aided if possible) to offset expenses will be most welcome. Make a day of it and come on a dog-friendly Frensham walk, starting at St Mary's church at 9:30am and returning in time for soup with organ music for dessert.

The series of lunchtime recitals continues on Tuesday **25 June** with Linden Innes-Hopkins (St Albans), Tuesday **23 July** with Brian Cotterill (Farnham), Tuesday **27 August** with Stephen Lacey (Farnham) and Tuesday **24 September** with Mark Brafield (Dorking). All recitals are at 1pm and will be preceded with a light lunch in the Church Hall at 12pm.

Further details from Mike Smith (07 767 414 306) or on the church website under Your Church / Forthcoming Events <https://www.frenshamchurches.org.uk/808345973491.htm>

Mike Smith

'Walking Together' Walking Group

The Walking Together Group meets on last Tuesday of each month at St Mary's Church at 9.30 in the morning for a walk that might take up to two hours starting and finishing at the church for a cuppa in the St Mary's Church Hall. Then everyone is welcome to stay for soup followed by the organ recital. It is all very informal; you do not need to be a church goer to join and anyone from the Dockenfield or Frensham area and their friends are welcome. The next dates will be Tuesdays **28 May, 25 June and 23 July**. For more information email: Lesley: roslings@hotmail.com **Lesley, Esther and Fiona**

Fiona, Jill and Caro: walking for charity again

Fiona, Jill, Caro the dog and Diana our roadie are off walking again raising funds for the Kingsley Organisation. This time we are striding out on the North Downs Way going from Guildford to Dover starting on the 1 July. The walk is in the region of 131 miles depending if you go via Folkestone or Canterbury. We plan to do the latter but are restricted on time.

If you would like to sponsor us please either fill in the form on the desk in the Kingsley Centre, ask us for a form (jill@kingsleyorganisation.org.uk) or log on to the Just Giving page which can be accessed through www.kingsleyorganisation.org.uk. Please identify that your donation is for the North Downs Way Walk. All funds raised go towards the Kingsley Centre. Thank you.

Jill Trout, Fiona Ricketts and Diana Northey

Dawn in Dockenfield

'Did you see the white frost,
Crisp on the lawn,
Magical sound of bird song,
Trumpeting the dawn?

First rays of sunshine,
Bursting through the pane,
Pure clean country air,
Following the rain?

Deep in the forest
Very little around
Carpets of wild flowers,
Covering the ground

Then a handsome roe buck
Silently appears
Sliding through the catkins
Alert with twitching ears

Blue skies a background
To a myriad of green
All nature awaking
A buzzard views the scene.....?

This poem was submitted to DNL on 11 April when the writer awoke to a truly magical spring morning

Charity Skittles evening Saturday 29 June, 7pm at the British Legion

Charity skittles evening with fish and chip supper. Skittles start 7pm with supper at 8pm on 29 June at the Royal British Legion, Frensham. This is a fundraising event for James Matson age 15, (a St Mary's Church bell ringer) to go Kenya to support and assist with local community projects and environmental issues with camps international.

Tickets are priced at: Adult £15 and £12 for children under 16. Please contact **Tricia Matson** for tickets or more details on 01428 712421, mobile 07749 557593 or email: triciamatson3@mail.com

Millbridge WI

**Thursdays 20 June and 18 July
7.30pm, at the Marindin Hall**

The next two meetings of the Millbridge WI are:

20 June: Floral demonstration by Natalie Jarrett

18 July: Garden Party

For more information please contact **Bridgette Wilson** on Tel: 792527.

Butterfly habitats

In the last few issues of DNL there have been mentions of insects and wildlife, grass verges, concerns about bees, and how we can help encourage their habitat. Three of us in and around Dockenfield (Philippa Hall, Anne Tutt and I) are looking at the butterfly population and doing a weekly survey on Bealeswood Common (*see below*) for the UKBMS: (United Kingdom Butterfly Monitoring Scheme, Surrey Branch). Being interested in butterflies, where they live, what food they need and how to encourage them in our own gardens, we thought we would each write a short piece to cover different aspects around butterflies, flowers and habitat.

There's a lot of interest in encouraging bees and butterflies, and you may have thought of this for your own garden, perhaps creating a 'wild flower meadow' – something that has become popular lately in the gardening world; but how do you go about it? There are plenty of pitfalls and some misleading publicity about creating a meadow. For a start, not all flowers will grow happily in all habitats, and secondly, the flowers you choose may not attract the bees and butterflies you hope for. So what does grow naturally in Dockenfield, and when does a wild flower become a weed? There is a clue in our village name: plenty of 'docks in fields'!

You need look no further than Bealeswood Common for inspiration, where there is a wide range of wild flowers and species of grasses that have grown undisturbed for many years, apart from an annual cut after the seeds have fallen, to prevent the trees moving in. Parts of the Common are open and light, but there are shady areas, some dry patches, and also some very wet areas, so a varied habitat for different plants. The notice board at the top of the Common lists the flowers, birds and butterflies seen each month. Flower species have been counted and monitored for about ten years (by Dan Bosence), and we've found that -not surprisingly- the weather plays a big part in both flower and insect numbers, with most butterflies around when the widest range of flowers are out, and first appearances controlled by the weather.

As well as wild flowers and grasses, and that includes the less pretty nettles, docks and hogweed (wild patches are essential for butterflies as well) the Common has a good variety of trees and shrubs. These are all important for butterflies, some caterpillars are specific to certain host plants, although adult butterflies are less fussy and feed more generally on many varieties of flowers, including garden flowers of course.

So taking our common as a model for what will grow happily in our village gardens and fields, the following plants, seen from Spring through to October, are of particular interest for butterflies to lay their eggs: Primroses, Garlic Mustard and Lady's Smock (cuckoo pint), Ragwort, Fleabane, Nettles, Marjoram, Thistles and Bramble, where the flowers are often covered by a range of butterflies in mid-summer.

At different times of the year on the Common there are widespread flowers we notice are attractive to butterflies for nectar, among them are Buttercup, Vetch, Violets, Strawberries, Red Campion, Knapweed, a great display of Common spotted orchids, and many more. At the end of summer, if you search, you will find delicate Harebells in the driest patch of common. So, if you are interested in developing habitats for wildlife and are struggling to find what suits our own soil-types, have a look at our Common: seeds and plug plants are available to buy. **Alison Bosence**

Bealeswood Butterfly Survey April to May 2019

April 1-7	1 x peacock, 2 x brimstone
April 8 – 14	1 x orange tip, 1 x peacock
April 15 - 21	1 x brimstone, 3 x orange tip, 4 x speckled wood
April 22 - 28	2 x small white, 2 x orange tip, 1 x speckled wood
April 29–5 May	None seen

Philippa Hall, Alison Bosence and Anne Tutt

News from Dockenfield Parish Council

Next Meeting Dates: The next meeting dates of the Council are: Tuesdays **21 May** (Annual Parish Meeting, see page 2); **18 June**; **16 July**; and **17 September**. Meetings are held at 8pm in the vestry of the Good Shepherd. Everyone is welcome to attend all or part of each meeting. Please always note: whilst these dates are accurate at the time DNL goes to press, they can be subject to change if circumstances dictate; so, if you are planning to attend it is always worth checking beforehand on the DPC website, as below.

Emergency Email List: We do recommend that everyone signs up for the Emergency Email List which updates residents about important events in the village. All you have to do is email Jessica on dockenfieldclerk@hotmail.co.uk **Jill Trout and Jessica Hobday www.dockenfieldpc.org.uk**

A BBQ Easter

Apparently, the weather we all enjoyed at Easter was the hottest ever recorded in this country for that holiday period. And that has been reflected in the rainfall report for the last two months which **Jack Bessant** tells us is as follows: **2019**: March 85.5mm; April 29.1mm. **2018**: March 91.8mm; April 70.2mm. Whatever happened to 'April Showers' this year?

'Climate Change: The Facts'

And over the Easter period did you see that fascinating, but deeply worrying, programme on TV 'Climate Change: The Facts' presented by David Attenborough. It makes you think that the increasingly lovely weather we are experiencing isn't such a grand idea at all, as extremes of temperature around the world increasingly threaten the planet we live on, the wildlife we share it with, and the fragile eco system that holds us all together. But as Attenborough pointed out, whilst we must look to governments and large companies in particular to help halt the damage we are doing, there are also things that we can do as individuals that will help. There three most important evidently are:

- Eat *all* the food you buy. There's simply a colossal amount of food (up to a third apparently) purchased but never eaten and/or left on the plate and discarded
- Avoid, if you can, buying food that has been *airfreighted* to this country
- Cut down on dairy and meat in your diet, and especially beef and lamb

And dare human beings ignore this?

I will let the following extract from a BBC News report (dated 6 May) speak for itself:

'On land, in the seas, in the sky, the devastating impact of humans on nature is laid bare in a compelling UN report. One million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction. Nature everywhere is declining at a speed never previously seen and our need for ever more food and energy are the main drivers.'

Making a connection?

The Farnham Herald of 28 March ran a piece headlined 'Town a hotspot for adultery', which reported that Farnham had been named amongst Britain's top ten adultery hotspots according to 'Illicit Encounters', who claim to be 'the UK's largest married dating website', and who say they offer a 'discreet and confidential extra marital affairs dating service for men and women'. It seems that 3.16% of Farnham residents are members of the site, placing the town sixth in the UK 'league table'. The very next edition of the Herald (4 April) ran an article saying that Waverley (of which Farnham is the principal town) had been also been ranked sixth in another 'league table', this time the list of 'happiest places in England,' according to a survey conducted by the Royal Mail.

Does anyone consider there may be a connection? Answers on a postcard please.....

Will you be 'Cursed'?

If you have been to Frensham Little Pond in the last few weeks you will surely have noticed a Celtic village taking shape in the woods alongside the Pond. Several straw huts were constructed on the banks as part of the film set for 'Cursed', a forthcoming Netflix TV show, set to be shown later this year. Picture by Jeff Powell.



Dockenfield Newsletter is produced entirely by volunteers. Neither the editor nor any of the contributors or distributors claim payment or expenses of any kind. The only cost is that of printing and this is paid for by Dockenfield Parish Council who consider the Newsletter an important service to the village. The views expressed are not necessarily the views of the Parish Council. Letters and articles that are submitted for publication are credited to their author and/or their organisation. All unaccredited articles have been written by the editor. Contributors should also note that the Newsletter appears on the Dockenfield Parish Council website.

Hard copies of Dockenfield Newsletter are delivered six times a year to all 250 or so households in and around the village. In addition around 200 people, predominantly but not necessarily local, are emailed a copy upon publication. Both services are entirely free of charge and without obligation. If you don't live in the village but enjoy reading the Newsletter, and would like to be added to this mailing list please email michael.foster66@btinternet.com Please be reassured that this mailing list is used to distribute pdf copies of the Newsletter and for no other purpose, and will never be disclosed to any third party. Alternatively, if you are already on this list and wish to unsubscribe at any time, again just email as above and your name will be removed from the list immediately.

Many readers like to save their copies of the Newsletter, but if you don't do this, then please recycle carefully. For the next edition **the deadline is 18 July** with items sent by email please, ideally as a Word attachment, to michael.foster66@btinternet.com. Or through the door at Farm Cottage, Bealeswood Lane.



Jeff Powell's picture of his unexpected visitor

Encounters of a more unusual kind

If you live round here, there are some animals you will see very regularly. Deer, rabbits, badgers, even moles (if you count the hills!) So, it's nice to have reports of more unusual animal residents reach DNL, like the cuckoo sightings (see page 4). Jeff Powell, a DNL reader from Lower Bourne put this thought in my mind when he reported how delighted he was to see a beautiful baby grass snake on their driveway in late April. A few weeks later Debbie Foster was driving towards the village when a weasel ran across the road. And I will never forget the morning I came downstairs to find a kestrel sitting in our lounge. Having (presumably) come down the chimney, it had no way of escape. So, I opened the front door and it flew happily away. If you have any encounters of an unusual or unexpected kind, do let DNL know.

Asparagus, huh

A few years back we planted some asparagus. You can't harvest for the first two years, and then frankly our crop was pretty meagre. Last summer we decided to cut our losses and dig the asparagus up. Whereupon, this year we have our most abundant crop ever! Asparagus, huh...

Booking Form - SKITTLES EVENING – FRIDAY 18 OCTOBER 7pm

Please book tickets (£16 each) for the Skittles Evening at the Jolly Farmer, Blacknest.

I enclose a cheque for £ in payment (payable to K Poulosom).

Name(s): Date of booking:

Address:

Tel: Email:

Names of all players (It is really important to include this so teams can be formed ahead of the evening):

.....

Food Choices: complete the numbers of meals from the choices below. All choices are served with chips, except for salad with the potato:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Battered cod | <input type="checkbox"/> Chicken, ham & leek pie | <input type="checkbox"/> Pork & chorizo burger |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wholetail scampi | <input type="checkbox"/> Falafal & spinach burger (V) | <input type="checkbox"/> Jacket potato, cheese & baked beans (V) |

Send or deliver to: Katy Poulosom, Glenroona, Batt's Corner, Dockenfield GU10 4EX. Or contact by email: katy.poulosom@btconnect.com or tel: 07703 519488

Booking Form - THE MIDSUMMER SUPPER, FRIDAY 21 JUNE 7pm

Please reserve:..... tickets (£17.50 each) for the Summer Supper. I enclose a cheque for £ in payment (payable to St Mary's Frensham Trust). Please send this form (including all names), along with your cheque and a stamped addressed envelope to: **Jane Wood, 1 Dene Cottages, Holly Bush Lane, Frensham, Farnham GU10 3BN. Tel: 795627. Or email to reserve: janewood61@outlook.com**

Name(s):.....

Address:.....

Email: Contact Tel:

If vegetarian meals are requested, please indicate the number your party requires here

Other dietary requirements/allergies (please state)