

DNL Dockenfield newsletter

News and events from in and around the village of Dockenfield
Issue 286 Published 15 September 2021

Ah, there you are.....

I hoped you might be there. It's so good to see you again, doing things that are (mostly) customary. Getting together socially, going up the pub, meeting at our clubs and societies, entertaining friends. All the normal things in life that haven't been, well, normal for quite a while now. Fingers crossed that if the world stays sensible, then we won't have to dive back into any form of lockdown.

Meanwhile thank you to everyone who came forward with so many ideas for the future of the Good Shepherd. You will find an update on the progress in this edition. One initiative that has already taken wing is Barbara Potter's brilliant plan to create 'Coffee Stop: Dockenfield' every Friday morning whatever the weather. It's proving way more popular than anticipated, with good numbers coming every week. You haven't been? Well, now's your chance.

For full news of this and everything that is going on in the Parish, read on. **Michael**



A marbled white butterfly photographed on Bealeswood Common by Alex Potts. See page 2

Hold the Date: Saturday 4 December

The Activities Committee are planning on organising a village get together, for the whole family. After the last 18 months, it would just be nice to get everyone together for a drink and some food and to re-acquaint ourselves with each other again. Planned date is Saturday 4 December 2021; the event will be held early evening, locally in the village. More details to be provided in the next DNL. Hope to see you all there. **Activities Committee**



These beautiful stained glass windows in the Good Shepherd were designed by the late Pauline Baynes. See pages 4 and 11 Picture by Simon Claiden

'Beat the Bounds' Sponsored Walk Saturday 18 September, 9am from the Frensham Pond Hotel

Rev Jane and others will be doing the beautiful 15-mile walk around the boundaries of our Benefice on Saturday 18 September – walking from Frensham Pond Hotel at 9am and spending the day taking in the beautiful scenery before returning to the hotel.

If you would like to sponsor Rev Jane you can do so in various ways: either through the church website or Facebook page where there will be this link: <https://givealittle.co/campaigns/8e9a5641-62db-4f0d-acd7-77c0c2717e2b> or at the contactless card reader at St Mary's Church, or by signing her form or others' that are participating. All funds will be for the general church fund which enables the churches to stay open and for a vicar to serve the parish.

Surrey Artists Open Studios

A surprise extra 'open studio' event has been organised for October, to celebrate Farnham's new status as a 'World Craft City'. What an honour!

To quote, 'Farnham is the first town in England and only the third region in Europe to be given 'World Craft City' status. Other European holders of the designation include the Outer Hebrides for Harris tweed and the Danish island of Bornholm, famous for its glass production and pottery using locally worked clay'.

So why Farnham? There's a history of course, beginning with pottery produced around Farnham since Roman times. Again, to quote the Farnham Town Council site, 'The town's creative landscape includes the Farnham Maltings, with a thriving craft festivals programme, The University of Creative Arts, with a school of craft; the International Textiles Research Centre; the internationally renowned Crafts Study Centre, celebrating its 50th year; The New Ashgate Gallery, one of the leading contemporary arts galleries in the south east of England; Farnham Pottery, founded by Absalom Harris in 1873, which has the oldest wood fired kiln in Europe; and a wide range of community-led activities that take place throughout the year.'

We are so pleased to be able to be part of this celebration, especially after the last year or two of cancelled events.

Studio open at Jeffreys Cottage, Bealeswood Lane

Friday-Sunday 8-10 October, 11am-5pm each day

I'll be opening my 'pop up studio' in my airy garage again with a different line-up: Ruth Taylor paintings and my knitwear, both of us working away painting and dyeing yarns, and ready to chat! If you haven't been before, do drop in. Full details and illustrations of our work at <https://surreyopenstudios.org.uk>

Alison Ellen

Exhibition at The Kiln, 38 St George's Road, Badshot Lea, Farnham GU9 9LY

Friday-Sunday 1-3, 8-10, 15-17, 22-24 October, 11am-5pm each day

On Saturday mornings a selection of exhibitors will be there working, on hand to chat to any visitors and there will be teas/coffees on offer.

As well as framed prints, there will be a running slideshow of combined work where, as part of the group, I'm hoping to showcase the diversity of nature found on Bealeswood Common (for such a small patch it really is amazing and expanding as we explore areas and habitats.) Most of my photographs in the exhibition have been taken of butterflies and bees on Bealeswood Common, my favourite! (See photograph on page 1).

Kiln Photo are part of the North Farnham Art Trail; the trail map and more information can be found on their website; <http://www.nfat.co.uk>.

Alex Potts



Ruth Taylor's painting 'The Enigmatic Landscape' and Alison Ellen's 'Waistcoat, hand-dyed wool' are displayed for sale at Jeffreys Cottage. Alex Pott's beautiful picture of a marbled white butterfly on page 1 is part of the exhibition at The Kiln, Badshot Lea

Poppy Appeal 2021

The Royal British Legion has confirmed that we are allowed to have a normal Poppy Appeal this year subject to any possible guidance changes from the Government. Therefore, our collection period for the Poppy Appeal will run from 30 October to 14 November. Our team of dedicated collectors will be visiting houses in Frensham and Dockenfield during that period, selling poppies. Donations for poppies can also be made at the usual strategic locations, such as The Royal British Legion Club, the Frensham Village Shop, local pubs and schools or by bank transfer to "RBL Poppy Appeal" sort code 30-11-75, a/c no 01937121, quoting reference SEH09.

Remembrance Sunday 14.11.21

We plan to hold our usual Remembrance Sunday services this year and the timings are as follows:

- 10.15 am Frensham Memorial Service
- 10.50 am Remembrance Service, St Mary's Church
- 12.30 pm Dockenfield Memorial Service, The Street
- 1 pm Royal British Legion Club Memorial Service

Our villagers have always shown very generous support for the Poppy Appeal in the past and so we hope that now the Covid restrictions have been eased you will feel able to fully support the Appeal again this year.

Peter James
Local Poppy Appeal Organiser

Coffee Stop: Dockenfield

10-12 midday, every Friday at the Good Shepherd

This has been a great success and has been enjoyed by many from Dockenfield and Frensham. Barbara Potter's inspired idea to both enhance village communication and coherence and support the upkeep of the building has brought refreshment and joy to many who have loved the chat, company and the cakes!

An average of some 25 people have come every week since it started. Everyone is welcome: as are well-behaved dogs. Enjoy delicious home-made cakes, coffee and tea served outside if it's sunny, inside if it's not. And the conversation is non-stop. What a wonderful way to meet existing friends and make new ones.

Thank you, Barbara and everyone who is volunteering to make this happen. This enjoyable activity has so far raised over £500 towards church funds...amazing! We will be continuing this throughout the Autumn and Winter leading up to Christmas – who knows we might even have a pre-Christmas sing-song and mince pies!

If you would be happy to help Barbara on one or more Friday mornings, do please call her on 01252 794727 or talk to her at the Coffee Stop.

Macmillan Coffee Morning at 'Coffee Stop: Dockenfield' on Friday 24 September

Macmillan Coffee Morning is happening all over the country on Friday 24 September. Barbara Potter has sent for the pack and all proceeds will go to Macmillan on that day.

Harvest Supper 2021

Friday 8 October, 7pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd

This will be on Friday 8 October at 7pm in the Church of the Good Shepherd. This year we will be limiting numbers to 60 to keep in line with where we are with Covid. We are remaining cautious with regard to protecting people so will be encouraging the wearing of masks to come in, but once seated they can be removed. We will continue with sanitisation on entry and the tables will be carefully distanced to reduce risks. We will encourage people to take their seats and chat there rather than mill around. A team of people will bring meals to the table. There will be the usual raffle and of course some entertainment! £12.50 per ticket available from the Village Shop or contact Barbara Potter on Tel: 794727.

Rev Jane

Bealeswood Common Working Party and Management Walk Sunday 17 October 9.30am and 2pm. Meet at the seat on the Common

Do come along and join the **Working Party** for Bealeswood Common on Sunday 17 October. We will meet at the seat at 9.30am. Vicky will bring along tools and a list of jobs. There will be refreshments too! It's great fun to meet up (in the open at a distance) and get some work done on the Common at the same time. You can stay for as long or little time as you have available.

The **Annual Management Walk** will then take place on the same day, currently set for 2pm. These Management walks have been taking place for some thirty plus years and are a significant demonstration of the unique partnership between WBC and Dockenfield village and the importance of this public open greenspace.

Hope to see you then.

Jill Trout

Tea @ 3 restarts

We were very happy to restart Tea @3 on 6 September in St Mary's Hall. As before, everyone is welcome for tea, sandwiches and cakes at £2 per person. Do join us. Everyone is welcome! No need to book. Always on the first Monday of the month so other dates are **4 October, 1 November and 6 December**. Please call **Morag James** on Tel: 793133 for further information.

An update on the Church of the Good Shepherd

At present things are holding steady with regard to the viability of the Church and church finances. I have been coming along to the Dockenfield Parish Council meetings to keep them up to date on the state of play, as it were.

We have agreed at the last Parochial Church Council to do the faculty (church planning permission) to remove the pews and I am working on this complicated document at present and will send to the Diocese once done. When we have their approval, we can then get on and sell the pews. If anyone would like to purchase one for their garden or conservatory, please contact Revd Jane. For the time being we will use the chairs that we already have and look into purchasing replacement chairs later.

Thank you to everyone who has emailed following the articles in the last DNL and who have suggested creative ideas for using the Church of the Good Shepherd as a hall – there are many and they are diverse. Huge thanks to Jill Wright, my church treasurer, for collating these. She has suggested, and I absolutely agree, that it would be beneficial to all if we have a ‘Sociable Evening’ perhaps in November with the community to give more information about a possible way forward (a bit like the Village Lunch) as a church/council/community endeavour? If we go down this route, the overall responsibility for the church, whilst it is a church will still remain with myself and the PCC but we will need a community link person to converse with a Church warden to make this new endeavour work. At present I do not have Church wardens for either church so this is a work in progress too.

Regarding exploring spirituality as I suggested in the last DNL, I have had offers from a few people to help with expanding this and also the suggestion of regular prayerful/spiritual healing sessions. If this interests you then let me know and I will organise events to suit.

Overall to grow closer links with the whole community of Dockenfield would be really healthy for cohesiveness and community spirit going forward. I am already really enjoying spending time with those who come to the Coffee Stop on Fridays, meeting new people and supporting those who have lived in the village for donkey’s years! Coming out of Covid has made us all realise that we both need each other and can have fun times together which enriches life greatly!

God bless you all, with love and blessings

Rev Jane Walker xx

News from Dockenfield Parish Council

All Parish Council meetings are now being held in the Church of the Good Shepherd. If any residents wish to speak at a meeting, there is a slot in the agenda. The agenda can be found on the Parish Council website a week before the meeting at www.dockenfieldpc.org.uk. Alternatively, any questions you would like to be discussed at the meeting, please contact the clerk at dockenfieldclerk@hotmail.co.uk

Parish Council Meeting Dates. Tuesdays **21 September** and **19 October**, 8pm at the Good Shepherd.

Field at Junction of Boundary Road and West End Lane. Residents may have noticed recent activities in a field next to Boundary Road and the junction with West End Lane. The Waverley Planning Enforcement team is engaged and measures being taken to ensure lawful use of the field. If anyone has any concerns, they should report these to the Waverley Enforcement Team in Godalming (contact details on Waverley website). If they do make a report, please copy in the Clerk (email address as above), and, with the field being in Frensham Parish, also the Clerk of the Frensham Parish Council (clerk@frensham-pc.gov.uk).

Planning Applications. There has been an increase in the number of planning applications in Dockenfield, consistent with the national trend. All planning applications are published to the Waverley Planning Portal on-line, search "Waverley Planning" in a web browser and you will find the link to the Planning Portal. In the planning portal you can search to find a sorted list of planning applications with the most recent first. We suggest you click on the ‘Advanced Search’ under the main search box, then go straight to the ‘Parish’ box, select ‘Dockenfield’ then click on the blue ‘Search’ box at the top of the page to give you a list of all Dockenfield planning applications. (N.B. we have noticed that the ‘key word’ search works on the address text in the application and have found that not all applications have the word ‘Dockenfield’ in their address, with the effect that some Dockenfield planning applications have been missed). Immediate neighbours are notified by Waverley Planning with a letter about the planning application but the traditional yellow planning notices are no longer sent by Waverley to be displayed on the property hence it is important to periodically check the website yourself. We would encourage all residents to view planning applications and comment whether it be supporting, objecting or simply making a comment. There is generally a period of 3-4 weeks for comments from the application being published on the Waverley Planning website – in the Details section of each planning application there is a “Comments Due By” date.

**Paul Wood (dockenfieldchairman@hotmail.com) and
Jessica Hobday (dockenfieldclerk@hotmail.co.uk)**

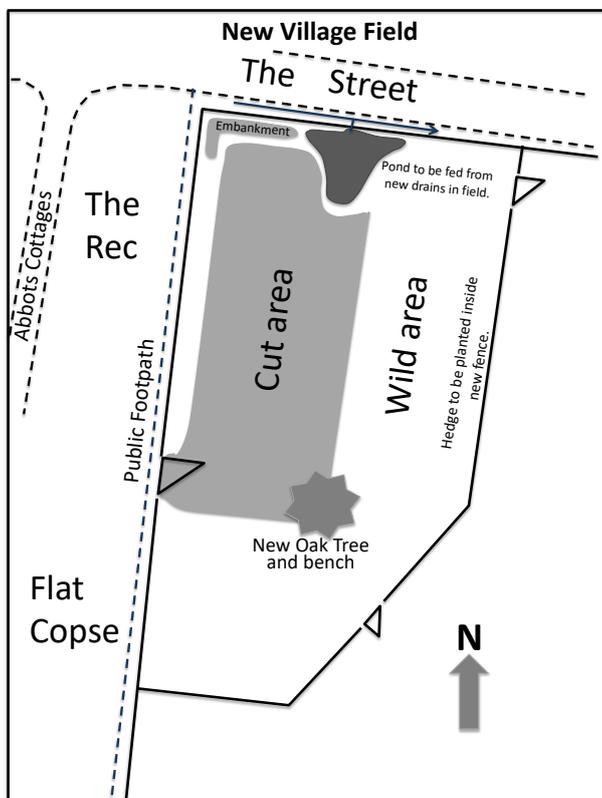
Plans for the Village Field

The Open Spaces group of DPC have been focusing attention on plans for the Village Field on the eastern side of the Rec. Our aim is to establish an area that will increase the diversity of wildlife, whilst maintaining public access and an area that may prove to be useful for D Day sports activities. However, we are mindful that it is all extremely boggy ground that is poorly drained and underlain throughout by clay. Is it the boggiest area of Dockenfield? Do you have any other contenders?

Since purchase by the village, a sturdy wire fence has been erected with a large field gate on the northern end of the field and a wooden pedestrian gate on the southern. These are being well used by walkers and their dogs.

In addition, a large rectangular area has been cut thanks to Roger Trout and his tractor. The remaining area has been “rewilded” to use a fashionable term, but this rewilding goes back some 20-30 years and is largely grass and sedge, with patches of brambles and scattered willow saplings. These areas attract butterflies and other insects and grass snakes have been seen in the boggy areas. The plans for the future are:

- A hedge of native species to be planted along the village side of the fence. We intend to have a digger to prepare the rough ground but once ready we will have hundreds of bare-rooted saplings to plant and we are seeking volunteers to help with this task. If you have a spade and feel you can help with our working party, please contact one of the names at the bottom of this article.
- A new specimen oak to be planted on the south-eastern corner of the mowed area with a circular seat so that we can enjoy the view this affords of the field and the eastern side of the village.



- A shallow pond to be excavated in the natural depression and ditch along the northern margin of the cut area alongside the roadside hedge. This has an old drain passing through to the roadside ditch. Yes, we have Hatch Pond, but there is one thing better than having one pond for attracting wildlife and this is a number of ponds. This allows animals and plants to migrate and colonise new areas. Drainage pipes to be installed in the cut area to feed into the new pond.
- The soil from the pond excavation to be piled into a shallow bank in north-eastern corner of the cut area as a south facing bank for wildflowers and insects.
- A field-gate and kissing-gate to be installed between the Rec. and the Village Field.

Our plan is to carry out this work over the coming year, and whilst contractors are being sought for the heavy work, we need working parties to help with lighter tasks, such as hedge planting, seat installation, moral support (teas and cakes would be nice!). Please contact any member of the Open Spaces Group as listed below if you feel you can support this exciting new project for the village.

Dan Bosence dwbosence@btinternet.com

Nathalie Griffiths nathalie@greengagegarden.com

John Stirling john@stirlingreid.com

Jill and Roger Trout troutdpc@gmail.com

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Friday 24 September 9.30-midday at Frensham Cricket Club

We are delighted to announce that the World's Biggest Coffee Morning will return on Friday 24 September from 9.30am to midday. Frensham Cricket Club has once again kindly offered up the use of their pavilion for plenty of coffee, tea and cakes.

Charities like Macmillan have suffered enormously throughout the pandemic, with many cancer sufferers having to rely on Macmillan for much needed support. We are all very aware of the phenomenal work Macmillan does, and this year they need our support more than ever before.

Please do consider coming along, and feel free to invite friends and family to this very worthwhile and enjoyable event. We are really looking forward to welcoming you all! If you are unable to attend but would still like to donate, there will be a collection box left in the village shop. Equally, if you would like to bake or donate a cake for the event, then please let the village shop know so we can keep a list of bakers. Many thanks.

Sue Wicks

Farnham Foodbank: the need continues

With so many of the deprivations of lockdown now thankfully behind us, it is tempting to think that demand at Farnham Foodbank has slackened, but sadly that isn't the case. Dockenfield and Frensham have been quite astonishingly generous since we began as collectors in May last year, donating 8,537 items of food so far.

But since the requirement continues, so does our determination to assist. So, if you are able to help then we (and the Foodbank) would be very grateful. Please leave any contributions:

- On the table in the (open) front porch at Farm Cottage, Bealeswood Lane, Dockenfield GU10 4HS. We will be sure to check the porch at least twice a day and take food in for safe storage until we deliver, now each Wednesday morning.
- If you live at or near Great Holt, then please take your donations to Heather Britton, The Coach House, Great Holt, Old Lane, GU10 4HQ.

Contributions of non-perishable items are welcome provided they are within code. Or, if you prefer, put cash donations through our door and we'll do the shopping. **Michael and Debbie Foster and Heather Britton**

Friends of Frensham Churches

Like so many charities, our fund-raising activities have been curtailed during the pandemic. We have been fortunate that a combination of investment returns and generous gifts have allowed us to sustain our target of an annual grant capacity of £3,000 per year - and our first grant will become a reality this Spring with the refurbishment of St Mary's bells. To sustain our support though, it is critical for us to re-commence our fund-raising activities and we are delighted to have two events already planned for next year.

We are looking forward to reinstating our main fundraising event for the year, the '**Safari Supper**', that was very successful in 2019. We have a date – **Friday evening 4 March 2022**. We plan to run the same format as last time, so we will have starters and main courses with different hosts and then join together at St Mary's Hall for puddings, cheese and coffee... even if we have to pinch ourselves to imagine that such things will be possible again!

Then we intend to continue the sustainable theme with an event dedicated to '**Renewable Energy in our Homes**' – helping us all be informed on how to make our homes kinder to the planet with questions like what happens when my gas boiler/ central heating needs to be replaced? Could I install solar panels? Does battery storage open up new possibilities? What financial and other support is available? We will be looking for ideas that will make it engaging for all the family and it will also mark the 10th anniversary of the mini hydro-electric installation at the old mill site. Less of a fundraising event, but we still hope to raise money on refreshments and even better if we can identify sustainable energy solutions for our homes as well as our church buildings. **10am-4pm Saturday 14 May 2022**, The Mill House, Frensham.

With huge thanks for your continued support. It has been sad to see so many of our historic buildings forced to be empty in these last 18 months. It is a joy to be a part of renewing the use of our church buildings as well as securing their future.

Trustees of Friends of Frensham Churches

Frensham and Dockenfield Village Lunch

Wednesday, 27 October, 12.30pm at the British Legion

On Wednesday 27 October at the Frensham Royal British Legion at 12.30pm, the Village Lunch will start again. This time '*under new management*' which is very exciting as it is a Church/RBL/Community undertaking thanks to the leadership of Pam Watmore and volunteers. We encourage all to come along for a sumptuous home-cooked 2-course meal and tea/coffee afterwards – all for just £5! There will also be the usual charity stall and a raffle. All welcome and no need to book for this month.

As we will be doing an early full Christmas meal on **24 November**, we will ask you to book for numbers. Please email: pam.watmore@gmail.com or sign up at the October lunch.

And a big thank you to....

You will have read above that the Village Lunch is 'under new management', and so this is surely the time to say the very biggest 'thank you' to everyone who has helped run the lunch up to this point. I am told that the driving force has been Pat Clough, who has worked tirelessly for well over thirty years to make it the success it is today. Alongside her have been Diana Parratt, Anne Johnson, Janet McFadyen, Rosemary Faun and many, many others who have helped with the cooking, the puddings, the general running, washing up etc. Apologies here if I am not mentioning everyone who deserves a 'shout out' as it is now called. Let me know if that's the case and I will give you the namecheck you deserve in the next DNL.

Letters to the Editor

In praise of the Good Shepherd

Friday brings a special treat,
Coffee and cake in Dockenfield Street,
Magnificent venue that's for sure
Temptation is to stay for very much more!

Meeting new neighbours and familiar faces,
Great conversation in the best of places.
Mighty Good Shepherd towering over,
Tending we sheep in cake and coffee clover!

See you there soon and at the other exciting events in
store.

Jill Trout

Blooming Dockenfield

How wonderful, like a flower unfolding, Dockenfield will
soon be in full bloom again. The Dockenfield papers
should be in the library for future generations to read.

Rosemary Steel, DNL reader in Peterborough

Apple windfalls wanted again

Last year there was an amazing response to the
request for windfalls for feeding to the rescue pigs at
Orchard Farm Animal Sanctuary.

They would all be delighted if they got similar treats
again this year.

If you have spare apples and do not mind leaving
them at the gate not a single pip or stalk will be
wasted.

Orchard Farm is on Dockenfield Road shortly after
the turning to Batts Corner as you leave the village
heading towards Holt Pound.

Many thanks,

Anne Tutt

Comings...

A warm welcome to Dockenfield to

- Pierre and Tamsin Roux and their two children Astrid (5) and Hugo (3) who have moved into 'Heanor' in The Street. They have moved from London where they had lived since 2014. Previously they lived in The Netherlands. Tamsin is from Melbourne, Australia, whilst Pierre grew up in Cape Town, South Africa. They have already met a good number of neighbours at the Friday Coffee Morning at the Good Shepherd and as they are very keen walkers, they looking forward to meeting more Dockenfielders on their walks or at the Bluebell.
- Stephen and Karen Cripps who moved into Number 1, Abbots Cottages on 1 September.

...goings...

None that I have been told about for this edition

...and congratulations to

- Babette and David Littlemore who were married in St. Mary The Virgin's Church in Frensham on 29 June 2019 have announced the birth of their daughter Anna Olivia Littlemore, born 1.34am on 1 September 2021, weighing 7lb 13oz (3.540 kg). Babette is the daughter of Bo and Lene Rasmussen of Bealeswood Lane, Dockenfield who have become proud grandparents for the first time.

If you are new to the village, then please let the Newsletter know and we can welcome you in the next edition. Or if you want to offer congratulations on a wedding, birthday or anniversary again let the Newsletter know and they can be mentioned in this section. And if you want to stay in touch once you have left Dockenfield, ask for an email copy of the Newsletter to be sent to you. Just email michael.foster66@btinternet.com

Celebrating a double Gold in Abbots Cottages

While everyone was celebrating gold at the Olympics, **Linda and Tony Martin**, here at Abbots Cottages, were celebrating their own double gold. 31 July was our 50th wedding anniversary and it was also 50 years to the day that we moved into Dockenfield; so that makes it a double gold for us.

Our two children grew up in the village and went to the local schools although Pamela did go to UWE Bristol to get her degree. She and her husband now have their own business in East Grinstead, proving even council house kids can do well if they try (mind you she always wanted to play with other people's money).

A lot has happened in those 50 years, but Dockenfield has been our home all this time and we have mostly loved it, (pet peeve, smelly bonfires) and to be truthful the time has flown by. Here's to the next 50 years which will make me 120 years old, ha ha.

Tony Martin

Thought for the day

Even if everyone is doing it, wrong is never right.

News from your local churches

Firstly, a **huge thank you to our gardening team at St Mary's Church**. If you have been walking through the graveyard at St Mary's from March until now, you will have seen it grow into an amazingly large meadow with numerous brilliant wild flowers, with great humming noises from various insects and many more butterflies on the wing than before. This year we left virtually the whole of the land behind the church untouched apart from tending to trees hedges and bushes, and tidying up the path edging. Being two acres of land, it is a substantial area and the wildlife have very much enjoyed it. When walking through in the early hours of the morning I have seen many deer, squirrels, rabbits, mice, rats, owls, Egyptian geese and herons from the river – all of whom my chocolate Labradors want to catch but fail abysmally – thank goodness.

It has, however, taken a truly monumental effort to gradually trim, cut back and mow the land at St Mary's Church and get the graveyard back in shape in the last month. Hence my huge thanks at the start. We would very much like to continue doing this year on year for the environment, but *really* need more volunteers in order to do it. If you have benefitted from a lovely walk through the church meadow, and are passionate about our ecology, gardening, or nature, might you please join our volunteers? Obviously, the more hands the less work overall and all that... Please contact David Millais if you would be willing to give a few hours on a Saturday morning in the summer months.

Secondly, **huge thanks also to Ollie Griffiths and Rob Cregreen** who have been overseeing the meadow and church land in Dockenfield since May this year. The team of hedge-cutters on 11 September did such a fabulous job and now it is looking very well-cared-for and smart! It is always hopeful to see the Church of the Good Shepherd as well from the road as it is a very attractive building and very warm and welcoming particularly in the winter when you go past and the lights are twinkling due to either a service or activity going on. Again, more volunteers would be very welcome, so if you can help, please contact Rob email: robcregreen1@gmail.com

Regarding services: Apart from the Family Breakfast Service which used to be at 9am every Sunday morning in St Mary's Church Hall, we are now basically up to speed following Covid and have 8am services, 10.30am services and 6pm services all up and running very safely. Please see our website www.frenshamchurches.org.uk for further details. If you would like to attend any service, please do wear a mask on entry and if you are moving around, but you may remove it if you wish when seated. Please sanitize your hands upon entry and try to keep a minimum of 1 metre apart. We are able to sing now in services and are only sitting in every other row of pews to minimize risk of spread. We have all risk assessments in place for every type of service which are assessed and updated frequently and regularly.

Open the Book! Every Monday during term-time a group of 'thespians' go into St Mary's School to act out Bible stories for the children. We have been doing this for many years but obviously not during lockdown, but we can now go back! And it is leading up to Christmas, which is always fun - Hurrah! It is honestly such fun rehearsing just before, dressing up and then telling the stories. We then have coffee/cake afterwards at the pub. We are **recruiting for more volunteers**, so if you think you would like to do this, please contact Rev Jane on 01252 792137 or vicar@frenshamchurches.org.uk

Alpha Course: we are currently running an Alpha Course at St Mary's Church Hall on Monday evenings from 7-9pm. This is an enquirer's course about Christianity wherein you have a meal, watch a recorded talk for about 5 minutes and then chat or ask any question you like. It started on 6 September and runs to the end of November, and although this course is fully booked, I thought I would let you know that we will be running another in the Spring as well, in case you might like to think about coming then. Contact alpha@frenshamchurches.org.uk

Rev Jane Walker

There is a whole lot more going on at or around our churches. Please see the articles on the Village Lunch, the Harvest Supper, Organ Recitals, Coffee Stop: Dockenfield, Tea @ 3, the Sponsored Walk and Cherubs elsewhere in this DNL.

Organ recitals

The 3rd Tuesday of every month, 1-2pm in St Mary's Church

Organ Recitals started up again at St Mary's Church on 14 September and will now take place on the 3rd Tuesday of every month with visiting organists. The next recital will be given by Gillian Lloyd (organist of Guildford URC) on Tuesday **19 October**. Gillian's programme will include a delightful selection of music spanning from the 17th century to the present. There will be rolls and soup for all at 12 midday, with the recital between 1-2pm. There is no charge for anything but donations to offset the series expenses, either cash or using the card reader by the main door, will be most welcome. Future recitals will be on **15 November** and **21 December**.

Mike Smith

'If more of us valued food and cheer and Song above Hoarded Gold it would be a merrier world'

Regulars at the Bluebell may recognise this quote as it is inscribed above the bar. Better yet, these words were originally written by J.R.R. Tolkien, who is connected to the village as his books were illustrated here by long time Dockenfield resident Pauline Baynes, who is featured in this DNL on page 11.

Anyway, I am sure you agree, it's a lovely way to open this section of DNL. Now onto the details of what's happening at the pubs and clubs hereabouts.

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

Since the last DNL, life is starting to feel a 'bit' more normal! Face coverings and track and trace are now optional, but table service is something we are planning on keeping, for the foreseeable future.

Life here is still very unpredictable and whilst we have been very lucky, to not have had to close due to an outbreak of Covid, every cough and cold etc takes a staff member away at short notice to be tested and leaves us in a panic about what will happen next!

But we are feeling positive, we've had our best summer in 8 and a half years and we have had an amazing team of staff helping us all the way.

Opening Hours

Monday: Closed (except bank holidays)

Tuesday: 12-3pm (food 12-2.30pm); 5.30-10pm (food 6-9pm)

Wednesday: 12-3pm (food 12-2.30pm); 5.30-10pm (food 6-9pm)

Thursday: 12-3pm (food 12-2.30pm) 5.30-10pm (food 6-9pm)

Friday: 12-3pm (food 12-2.30pm) 5.30-10pm (food 6-9pm)

Saturday: 12-10pm (food 12-9pm)

Sunday: 12-6pm (food 12-3.30pm)

Booking is essential! This can be done via our website: <https://bluebell-dockenfield.com/>, by email: bluebelldockenfield@icloud.com or by calling 01252 792801.

Takeaways

Whilst we aren't advertising takeaways, we will still always take orders as long as the kitchen isn't too busy!

Men's Night

The Bluebell is pleased to host the Men's Night that takes place on the first Thursday of every month, from 8pm. The next two dates are Thursdays **14 October** and **11 November**. See page 10 for more details.

Thank you as always for your support!

Lucy, Robin and The Bluebell Team xx

Frensham Royal British Legion Club and Branch (Tel: 793014, www.frenshamrbl.org.uk)

The Legion is slowly and surely getting back to normal – numbers have increased, so we now have the real ale back on tap. Both snooker tables are now back in use, but an advance booking system is still in operation if you would like a game.

Carpet bowls will resume on Wednesday 6 October and will run every Wednesday evening through the winter. This is indoor bowls on a short mat – new players are welcome. Don't worry if you have never played bowls – you will be helped in a friendly, non-critical atmosphere. If interested, please come into the club as soon as possible and you will be put in touch with the organisers. Plans are also being made for bingo to restart and we are hoping to start quizzes again soon, so do come in and speak to our bar manager, Mick, for the latest news. If you are not a member and are interested in any of these activities, please come in and enquire further.

We are hoping that it may be possible to have the annual Harvest Home auction in aid of the Poppy Appeal and the club again in late October, but a final decision has not yet been made. Details will be in the October Parish Magazine if it is going ahead.

Janet Caiger

Cont/d

Cont/d

Craft Brews Brewery and Taproom (Tel: 07774 982174; www.CraftBrews.UK and @CraftBrewsUK)

Opening Hours

Friday: 12 – 8 pm; **Saturday:** 12 – 8 pm; **Sunday:** 12 – 7 pm

Additional opening hours are posted weekly to our website / social media as are the food events we frequently host. Check out our website /social media for available dates for “Pizza & a Pint”, “Indian Street Food & a Pint” and “Curry & a Pint” nights. We are open with seating available on our Terrace & Marquee and are taking reservations for tables via WhatsApp (07774982174).

Joe Wood

Contact information for the Holly Bush and Frensham Pond Hotel

If you want to check information with the Holly Bush and the Frensham Pond Hotel, please contact them direct:

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

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



Ideas for the phone box

On page 4 of edition 284, the Parish Council gave an update on the situation with regard to the village telephone box. In response, DNL heard from **Titian Fleming** (Evers) who lived in Green Lane for over 20 years.

Titian wrote to say:

‘As ever, it was a pleasure to receive the DNL. As you know, we lived at Alderholt for 23 years and I still have some very good friends in Dockenfield. I’ve lived in Weston (a small hamlet just south of Petersfield in the foothills of the South Downs) since 2000 and a few years ago we had a similar problem with our telephone box.

It became the Weston library, as you can see from the photo, and many of us regularly put books that we’ve read into the box and also borrow from it. I recommend the idea! Best wishes to everyone in Dockenfield.’

Meanwhile, whilst holidaying in the Cotswolds, we spotted this renovated telephone box being used as an information centre.



Men’s Night....

Men’s Night takes place on the second Thursday of every month, from 8pm at the Bluebell. It’s good company and good conversation and for many it has become a monthly tradition, so hope to see you there. The meal deal is decent too: a pint and a burger combo is just £10; a pint and a Dockenfield burger, £12. Damn tasty they are too, although recently Roly is leading a migration to the chicken burger, again available plain, with cheese or with what Roly describes as ‘firecracker cheese’! He’s taken to call it his ‘Dinner Winner’ and I must say the piece of chicken you get in the bun is so big it’s hard to know whether to take a bite out of it or a walk round it. For more details or to get onto the Men’s Night reminder list email **Mark Rosling** (markrosling@outlook.com). The next dates are Thursdays **14 October** and **11 November**.

....and Ladies Night

As far as I am aware, there remains no fixed date for the next Ladies Night so the best thing to do is to await news from **Nicola Hames**. To get on her reminder list just email nicolabb@gmail.com

What a wonderful venue

Debbie and I went to the Wine Tasting at the Good Shepherd a couple of weeks back. Which is a bit of a hoot really, as what we know about wine can be written on the back of a postage stamp. Anyway, it was a huge success and made a healthy amount of money for Friends of Frensham Churches who organised it. Whilst I was there, I stood back from the assembled company, looked around and thought what a wonderful venue this is: oozing character and interest with decent acoustics, full facilities and easy parking. Think about it if you want to hold an event.....



Dockenfield Rocks.... explained

I have just read the article in DNL 285 on page 16 about Kate and Rose McLean finding my daughter Chloë's painted rocks for Dockenfield village. Chloë thought it would be a fun game (Dockenfield Village Rocks) to hide the rocks and let others find them ...however, I thought it was a nice idea to have left them especially as they would fade in the rain!

Either way, Chloë has made some more to hide in the village as shown in the attached photo in case it's useful for DNL as Kate wanted to know who put them around the village....it was my 11-year-old daughter Chloë (pictured).

It was she who put the Global Warming poster in the bus stop a few years ago when she was about 7 and which featured in the DNL a while ago! People are welcome to leave the rocks or to re-hide the rocks as a fun game and Chloë will paint some more if it rains!

Jenny Miller

Thank you, Chloë, once more a star of the village

Pauline Baynes, famous resident of Dockenfield

With the future of the Good Shepherd currently in the spotlight, I thought it would be a good plan to repeat a DNL article about Pauline Baynes who made a wonderful contribution to the church by designing the stained-glass windows that grace the western end.

There can't be many residents who aren't familiar with, indeed love, the superb illustrations that accompany the books 'The Narnia Chronicles' (by C S Lewis); 'Lord of the Rings' and 'The Hobbit' (by J R R Tolkien), and 'Watership Down' (by Richard Adams).

But how many of you know that all these, and up to 100 other books, were illustrated right here in Dockenfield, in Rock Barn Cottage the home of Pauline Baynes, one of the most talented and influential illustrators of the 20th century. She moved to the village in April 1948 and created her wonderful drawings working on a table beneath the garden window right up to her death in August 2008. She left unfinished her project to illustrate Aesop's Fables. Knowing her endless appetite for her work, she doubtless had a whole list of other texts, all waiting to be brought to life by her magical brushstrokes. Tolkien was so impressed by her work for him, he famously described the words of his book as a 'Commentary on her drawings'

She was no great respecter of fame of course, her own or anybody else's, as memorably illustrated by her diary entry following one of her only two meetings with C S Lewis. It read: 'Met C S Lewis. Came home. Made rock cakes.'

That she loved the village dearly is witnessed by her gift of 'Fritz's Field' (at Three Ways) in memory of her beloved husband, Fritz Gasch; by the two beautiful stained-glass windows designed by her for the centenary of the Church of the Good Shepherd (see picture on page 1); and by her service on Dockenfield Parish Council.

The decision to re-publish this article has been unexpectedly timely too, as I (and a number of other residents in Dockenfield) received an email from Alberto Ceccatelli, who is Pauline Baynes' son in law. He explains:

'Pauline Baynes married Fritz Otto Gasch (+1988) in 1961. I am the Husband of Karin Gasch (+2014), born 1942 in Germany, daughter of Fritz Gasch from his first marriage 1941 in Germany.'

I will reply to Alberto and send him a copy of this and other relevant DNLs once I have put this one to press



Picture by Martin Pope

Annual village cricket game Dockenfield v Frensham



So close! Picture by Geoff Cooke

August Bank holiday Monday would not be the same without the annual cricket rivalry between Dockenfield and Frensham. Thanks to Alex Peers and Matt Barnes in particular, this village event was brought back to life four years ago after lying dormant for far too long. The Dockenfield team, sponsored by the best pub in Dockenfield, the Bluebell, and hot off two consecutive victories over Frensham were going for the hat-trick. Dockenfield took the game very seriously by doing a last minute 'nets' practice at the Bluebell with team bonding and making new friends as there were several last-minute call offs; new team members were introduced with a swift 'Moondance' or 'Guinness'.

The game started with a minute's silence which lasted 58 seconds for John Stuttaford, who was a stalwart and former Chairman and Treasurer of Frensham Cricket Club.

Dockenfield batted first and were not playing to the Geoff Boycott style of cricket; despite losing some early wickets they were scoring runs at a consistent and energetic rate. The middle order of Harry Jackson, Alex Peers and a debutant James Spice consolidated the innings to ensure Dockenfield were heading for a respectable total. Despite some awful decisions by the Dockenfield umpire who will require some further training for next year, especially on 'no balls' calls, he was retired

'injured' to be replaced by someone who understood the Laws of cricket! The last wicket partnership of Matt and Tom Blackburn finished with a flourish to post a respectable total of 191 all out after 32 overs; which was unfortunate as it was a 35 over match and would Dockenfield regret those missing three overs?

The Frensham batting seemed to parallel the batting of Dockenfield, scoring and losing wickets consistently. Oban Baird provided a powerful opening bowling spell which immediately put Frensham under pressure; also, special mention must be made to Alex Joyce (the only man I know who has two girls' names) for an excellent bowling spell to put Frensham well behind the scoring rate and the outcome at this stage was pointing to another Dockenfield win. Sam Green was the all-rounder for Dockenfield both scoring useful runs and bowling a good spell of five overs. Perhaps the unluckiest fielder was Tom Jackson (who has since emigrated to Dubai) who caught two batsmen off no balls and then dropped the Frensham equivalent of 'Joe Root' and their best batsman, James Frost, who then hit the next ball for six before being caught by his brother Jordan off the next ball. Nick Green took a specular catch on the boundary, injured himself in the process and had to be substituted. Special mention of Alex Rutherford the Dockenfield wicket keeper, who played a starring role in keeping the Frensham run rate down to ensure the 191 total was being well defended.

The finish was very tense and Frensham required 17 from the last over but only managed a respectable 8 runs and so Dockenfield finished winners again by 8 runs... or so their numerous supporters thought. Unfortunately, the scorer announced there was one further over left which meant Frensham needed 9 runs to win the game with two wickets remaining.

The last over deserves its own paragraph. The first ball went for 1, the second ball was a brilliant length and took out the middle wicket of the unfortunate batsman and so Frensham now required 8 runs with 4 balls to go. It was nail biting tense; the last man in for Frensham was Hally Baldock, the Frensham captain, and the bowler was Jordan Frost, who was playing against his father and older brother. The next ball was a dot ball, so 8 runs were needed with 3 balls to go and then Hally hit a thin edge which beat the despairing reach of the Dockenfield wicket keeper to race away for 4 runs. Two balls to go, the game could still go three ways of a tie, or win for either side. The second to last ball was hit for a magnificent 6 and so Frensham deservedly won the game by 2 runs with one ball to spare.

Some further observations to add to this memorable day. Frensham were generous and sporting hosts who played the game in a typical Corinthian manner. The supporters of both sides braved what must be one of the coldest August days, to cheer on both teams. While COVID may have dominated the headlines over the last 18 months, it's great to get back to a degree of normal life. At the end of the day while Frensham were victorious in a close fought game, the game of cricket was the real winner in bringing two communities together to enjoy the simple things in life, sport, beer and friendship.

Dockenfield team

1. Alex Joyce; 2. Alex Peers; 3. Tom Blackburn; 4. Harry Jackson; 5. Tom Jackson; 6. Matt 'Barnesy' Barnes; 7. James Spice; 8. Oban Baird; 9. Alex Rutherford; 10. Jordan Frost; 11. Sam Green; 12. Chris Powell; 13. Nick Green.

Guy Jackson

Frensham and Dockenfield Horticultural Society

Here we are entering autumn and the gardens are looking a little the worse for wear after some 'odd' weather through this summer period. It always amazes me how quickly we seem to go from new leaves appearing in April to the start of leaf fall in the early days of autumn. At least with the wetter periods we have had this year, trees do seem to be changing colour rather later than in the past few years, so we may have a more colourful autumn.

Tea and Garden visits: We held two tea and garden visits over the summer which provided a great opportunity for members to get together in small groups, have a great tea and see other gardens for inspiration. We will likely do the same again next year, although perhaps a little earlier in the year as the hosts all seem to think their gardens are best in May!

Autumn Show: We are delighted to have been able to run the Autumn Show after such a long break and really look forward to getting back fully into the show schedule next year. Thanks to Chas and Ruth for doing such a great job organising the show.

Garden Outings: We had a really good turnout for the visit to Wisley in July with a guided tour by one of the volunteers. It was a super opportunity to see and hear about some of the history of the gardens and be shown some different plants and areas that we could have missed. We ended with the opportunity for lunch at the new World Café which is part of the Hilltop Science building. Both definitely worth a visit. We plan another Wisley trip next year at a different time of year. We are able to have a guided tour each year as we are a member of the Surrey Federation. The next outing is a **Tour around Winkworth Arboretum (Tuesday 12 October in the morning)** led by Dr Peter Herring who is the Head Gardener. This follows a **talk by Peter on Winkworth Arboretum on Thursday 7 October at 7:30pm in the Marindin Hall.**

Other events to look forward to in 2021:

- **Thursday 23 September** – FDHS social evening FDHS at the Frensham Brewery
- **Thursday 28 October** – FDHS AGM, 7:30pm Marindin Hall
- **Friday 26 November** – FDHS members supper, Marindin Hall
-

The Committee is also busy planning the 2022 calendar of events and talks – more on this next time!

As usual all the most up to date information is available on the website www.fdhs.org.uk including confirmed event times, show results, newsletters and other information.

Joining FDHS: if you would like to join FDHS contact me for more information (email: bleachsharon@gmail.com) – members get a range of discounts at local suppliers and you get to join a great group of local people who enjoy different aspects of gardening.

Sharon Bleach

News from Frensham Village Shop

Hello everyone,

We have now completed the voting for the Frensham Village Shop 'Give Back 2020', and each of our 3 chosen causes (St Mary's Frensham Church Bells restoration; Hollowdene playground re surfacing; and Home Start in Waverley) received over £2,000 each. This now takes our donations to local causes to over £20k, thanks to the volunteers who allow us to keep the shop open, alongside our paid staff, and importantly all our customers!

Ollie, our manager, has recently introduced some more local products, and I don't think you can get much more local than the award-winning rind washed cheese from Cheese on the Wey based at Pierrepont Farm in Frensham. From a little further afield, we also have some Oak Smoked Garlic from The Garlic Farm, based on the Isle of Wight, which is also highly recommended.

We are constantly evaluating the food and drink on offer in the shop to get the right balance of local produce, but also specific needs such as our Kent & Fraser range of gluten free cookies and biscuits. We also want to make sure we have all the essentials you might need, and those items that you sometimes need in a hurry, such as our newly expanded range of cards for any forgotten special events that sneak up on you!

If you have any suggestions, feedback, or ideas for the shop, then please contact Ollie, the manager, or any of the volunteers or staff in the shop and let us know how we can serve you better. If you are interested in volunteering and how you can become involved, then please either pop into the shop or let us know via the details on the website.

Please stay safe and support your shop by shopping locally! We look forward to seeing you soon!

Callum Keaveny

Farnham's Historic Deal with Dockenfield

In edition 284, DNL ran an article that had previously appeared in the Farnham Herald under the above headline. The article examined an agreement, drawn up in 1908, for Farnham Rural District Council to supply water to the then rather outlying hamlet of Batts Corner. The original author of the article, Chris Shepherd, asked if anyone could throw any light on how such an unlikely agreement came into being. Surrey County Councillor and DNL reader, David Harmer, has come up with an explanation. Thank you, David.

These are notes, using the language of the time, resulting from an item in DNL about a new mains water supply for Batts Corner. Why were Farnham Rural District (FRDC) involved?

The starting point is really a series of serious cholera outbreaks during the 19th century. For example, one such in Bicester (cholera, 1832) had sufficient impact on the community that they erected a modest monument to honour all those who died. One of my ancestors was the last, and probably the oldest victim. When cholera became a serious problem in London, and indeed Westminster, Parliament decided to act; the result was the Public Health Act 1848.

It had become clear that cholera, and indeed typhoid, was carried by water, so they charged local authorities, cities and counties, with making arrangements for the provision of clean water. In true Victorian tradition companies were formed to specialise in the provision and distribution of clean water, and thus local government became increasingly important. In 1888 a new Local Government Act was enacted, creating much of what we see today.

The 1888 Act also for the first time extended the powers of Local Government of London (the LCC) south of the River Thames to include what we now know as Southwark and Lambeth. This included Surrey County Hall, which was located in what would now be the middle of the roundabout about half a mile south of Waterloo Station. It was then that Surrey County Council ran a competition for a new location and Kingston was selected. The new County Hall opened for business in 1889 (the Victorians did not sit about) and operated there until earlier this year before moving to Reigate.

Meanwhile water companies had been set up to bid for the opportunities now provided by the new local authorities, in Dockenfield's case "Farnham Rural District Council", and by the turn of the century most of the area was covered, as far west as Hindhead. In November 1907 FRDC was receiving complaints about the water pressure "in Hindhead near the reservoir." Probably that was the reservoir opposite the Punch Bowl Hotel, recently replaced by a modern version about 100 yards to the north-west, and the problems would have been caused by the rapid development of Hindhead from almost nothing in 1890. As part of their reaction to these complaints, it was decided to include Dockenfield in "*the list of places in which it is intended to obtain the powers to supply hydrants*". This implies a very early regulatory system, probably at County level.

At the same meeting there was an item "Batts Corner Water Supply" – clearly treating Batts Corner as almost a separate hamlet. The "Sanitary Committee's" report tells us that water samples had been sent for analysis (cost £2.7.3d), reported back as "very unsatisfactory". A formal resolution was passed unanimously to provide a specific supply of water to Batts Corner, and the Inspector was to prepare plans of the preferred route and a cost estimate, both to be brought to a Special Meeting in December for a final decision.

So, on 2 December 1907, the Inspector laid before the Council a plan showing two alternative routes for the mains to Batts Corner, one by an extension from Spreakley costing about £1,305 and the other by an extension from Rowledge costing about £876, with a branch one-inch main from either scheme skirting Beales Wood Common and linking up from the Post Office to the road leading to Frensham Common and costing about £93. The latter scheme was agreed.

It was also determined to give further notice to the inhabitants of Batts Corner of the desirability of boiling their water and particularly warning them as to the use of the water from the Public Well. In January 1908 it was agreed to guarantee a sum of £96.18s per annum to pay for the cost of the scheme, the Council's seal affixed.

In September 1908 the Council ordered samples to be taken of the water now used. In January 1909 they ordered the water in the Public Well to be analysed, and the Medical Officer of Health was asked to inspect three cottages in the Street. In November the Council gave permission for the road between the Rowledge to Batts Corner Road and West End Farm to be "stopped" while a water main was being laid.

The activities of the Wey Valley Water Company in the local area were driven by the Wey Valley Frimley and Farnham Water Act of 1898, which replaced the Farnham Water Order of 1886 which had been used by Farnham RDC. Article 4 of this Act (Limits of Act) "shall be the parishes in Farnham Rural, Frensham, Dockenfield, Shottermill", plus parts of Seale and some parishes in Hampshire. A further Act of 1905 empowers the WV Water Co to extend their limits of supply, and to raise capital. Further extensions were empowered by Orders of 1913, 1918 and beyond.

David Harmer

The continuing story of Dockenfield Manor

Regular readers will know that the subject is of continuing interest amongst readers in recent months (most recently on page 14 of the last edition).

And now Robert Heathcote from Great Holt has been kind enough to forward the attached advertisement for what was then Dockenfield Manor School along with this note.

The website doesn't make for easy reading so I am not publishing it here, but if you want to have a look then email me and I will forward you the link.

In the recent DNL, you included some background on the Manor, contributed by Pam Hibbert. This reminded me that some years ago I came across the attached entry for the Dockenfield Manor School in a wartime directory of schools.

The glowing description of the staff and facilities are in stark contrast to the reminiscences of former pupils which can be found on the Frith website.

I hope that this is useful.

Robert Heathcote, Great Holt



DOCKENFIELD MANOR

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NOTE.—As vacancies occur War-time Bursaries become available. Evacuees will be considered on special period terms. All particulars from the Head Master.

Downhill School is open to inspection at all times during term.

375

Call to action on Sunday 26 Sept, for Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity The Big Frensham Walk is back

This has been another challenging 12 months for Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity, with all our in-person fundraising events cancelled until now.

With a huge demand for our services in the wake of Covid-19 (many children and adults with dyslexia have particularly struggled due to disruptions to schooling and home-working routines) we are issuing a plea to our local community to join us for our community sponsored walk, so that we can raise some funds, and help more people with dyslexia.

Yes, our big news for our neighbours is that the Big Frensham Walk is back! So why not get your boots on and join us for this family and dog friendly ramble through our beautiful countryside?

It was lovely to see so many of you at our first Big Frensham Walk in 2019 and we were devastated to have to cancel the event last year. So now we're incredibly excited to be able to invite you to join us for this year's sponsored walk on Sunday 26 September!

Any sponsorship you raise will enable us to continue providing our specialist support to children and adults with dyslexia and other specific learning difficulties. If you'd rather make a small donation instead of raising sponsorship, that's absolutely fine. We'd love you to join us.

There will be two routes over the heathland and Little and Great Ponds. The 6-mile walk will take roughly 2 1/2 hours – longer if you are tempted to stop at the cafe on the way! The shorter route is 3.5 miles, taking around 1 1/2 hours. Needless to say, there'll be plenty of tea and cake to revive you back at the Centre, at the bottom of Arkell Lane.

If you'd like to join us, please go to www.helenarkell.org.uk/events for more information and to register. In the meantime, if we can be of any assistance to you and yours, please do get in touch by emailing enquiries@helenarkell.org.uk.

See you on the 26th!

Andy and the team

Four Easy Ways to a More Sustainable Future

1. Reduce Plastic Waste

- Give clingfilm the elbow by using silicone stretch lids which are easy to wash and reuse. They come in a variety of sizes so fit most bowls and containers and are simple to clean.
- Make rolls of plastic bags redundant by using silicone reusable bags for food storage, pack lunches, freezing soup etc They come in a variety of sizes, strengths and colours and are easy to wash out.
- Buy household cleaning products and larder goods in a No Waste shop. Take your empty containers for washing liquid etc and fill them up or bring home rice, nuts, coffee etc in paper bags to fill up containers at home. There are more and more of these around – the latest is in The Shed in Bordon which is worth exploring. My favourite is Refresh in Petersfield which is definitely worth a visit if you are nearby. (Check opening hours before visiting).
- If you prefer brands more readily found in supermarkets look for brands that are using clever ways to reduce plastic in their containers. CIF refills for kitchen and bathroom cleaners are fantastic for example.

2. Find an alternative to Peat Based Compost

If you don't understand why using peat in compost is a bad thing spend five minutes reading about it and you will be left wondering why it is only now that the government is proposing to ban it. Over the years I have experimented with a number of alternatives and some have been shockingly bad but thankfully quality and choice have increased. I have been using Melcourt Sylvagrow for the last two years and I can't fault it. It costs slightly more than basic peat compost so I compensate by using a bit less, mixing it with my own compost or reusing it for plants that don't extract much from the soil. It is easily available at Frensham Garden Centre. The other one that I have been impressed by is from Dalefood Composts. This Cumbrian based company uses bracken and wool to make a variety of brilliant composts. This is slightly harder to find locally and more expensive but a little goes a long way.

3. Turn your Computer Usage into Trees in the Desert

When you search for something online using a search engine your carbon footprint increases. If you add Ecosia to your choice of search engines every time you search for something online using them you make a contribution to a massive tree planting project in the most desperately dry places on the planet. This costs absolutely nothing to access or use and there are no downsides that I have come across. We argue in our house about exactly how good it is as a search engine but there is no doubt that if your search is for something straight forward like looking up the weather or the gym opening hours there is absolutely nothing to be lost by using this and much to be gained. It is worth looking at the work they are doing and the staggering number of trees that they are planting. Over a hundred and thirty million as I write this and millions more by the time you read it.

4. Sign up for the Binsted Eco Network

Email: binstedeconetwork@gmail.com. This brilliant newsletter is full of ideas and local projects and you do not have to be linked to Binsted to subscribe. When progress towards a greener, cooler, nature-filled future seems slow it is heartening to know that in all corners of the country people are doing whatever they can to speed things along.

Anne Tutt

A drop of the hard stuff?

A hospital nurse told me that she once had an outpatient turn up with a urine sample, as requested, but brought in a jar that had contained hot chutney. Dare not think what results that showed up!

I was telling this story to a friend who then told me about her aunt who took a urine sample to the hospital in a whisky bottle. She travelled there on a bus and when she got off, she noticed that the whisky bottle had been stolen from her bag. Bet the thief won't order that brand again!

Don't drink and drive

A friend who used to live in Africa told us about the time that he was stopped by police at a border checkpoint when driving south through the continent. He was slightly concerned that, it being a very hot day, he had an open can of cold beer in the console beside the driver's seat. The police spotted this and told him to get out of the car and drink the remainder of the beer and then continue his journey. Their reasoning being that you aren't allowed to drink *and* drive!

Millbridge W I

We had a great Garden Party in a marquee in July. The first time we had all been together since February, 2020. It was a very light-hearted evening. In August we met at the Marindin Hall, observing all Covid rules. Our speakers were two ladies from the Charity 'Pets as Therapy' with their lovely Retriever dogs Fleurie and Isla. They explained that they take their dogs into schools, hospitals and care homes where the people can stroke and talk to them. The stories they told were very uplifting. Next month's speaker is Tessa Burrows, 'Grannies can do anything'

The Book Club and Craft Afternoon have been meeting on Zoom and now meeting in members gardens, another Afternoon Tea is being arranged for September. There are also outings to Winchester Cathedral and to Ramster Gardens.

New members are always welcome, come and give us a try. For enquiries, please contact Penny Garrard (penny.garrard@btinternet.com). **Diana Parratt**

Whisper it softly, but you need to get Xmas dates in your diary

Yes really, Crimble is creeping up on us. What exactly happened to 2021? Or 2020 for that matter? And this year, fingers crossed, we may even be able to celebrate it together. So, get these dates in your diary pronto as those lovely Xmas events that we all missed so much last year are back in the village calendar. Here you go:

Sunday 12 December 10.30 am: Putting up the Village Xmas Tree.

Monday 13 December 6.45pm: Village Carol Service.

Local Dialects?

We were fortunate enough to have a 'staycation' in the Lake District and Dumfries and Galloway a few months back and spotted these signs which amused us.

In the lake District

At the entrance to a tea shop, 'Welcome to the Cake District'
At a pub, above the dog's water bowl: 'Please drink responsibly'

In Scotland

In a tea shop: 'I want someone to look at me the way I look at chocolate cake'

And at the local chippy: 'The Frying Scotsman'

Please check before you plan

The government has lifted the majority of restrictions previously in place because of coronavirus. But some places are still asking for precautions such as mask wearing to be adhered to. Also of course, the situation could change at any moment. So please make sure that it is possible, safe and sensible to do so before attending any of the events announced in this edition of DNL.

B****y Hell, swearing is on the increase

Did you hear that piece on the Radio 4 Today Programme that said that swearing in this country has increased by over 30% since 2017? S*d it, don't tell me you missed it?

Cherubs Toddler Group

Thursday mornings 9.30-11.30am, at the Good Shepherd

Has restarted on Thursday mornings during term-time from 9.30am – 11.30am. A great space for young families and their parents/grandparents/carers where all have fun, refreshments, sociability and singing. £2.50 per family per session.

Pilates at the Good Shepherd

Just a reminder that the Pilates classes have returned to the Good Shepherd, with two classes every Monday. The times are midday-1pm and 7-8pm. Please don't just turn up at these classes as they are very popular, but contact the tutor Christine Jason with enquiries (Tel: 07896 293203).

Helping disabled access

I am delighted to say that our two ramps advertised as looking for new owners in the last DNL are now aiding disabled access at Millers Ark Animal Farm, near Hook. Thanks to Debra Norman for facilitating this.

Same again, please

Rainfall for 2020

June: 39.6mm; July 2020: 47.7mm

Rainfall for 2021:

June: 83.4mm July: 83.4mm

Not only is that much more than 12 months ago, but it's unusual to have 2 months together with the same rainfall.

Jack Bessant

Is this a record?

I know that lockdown meant that travel was severely restricted, but this must surely be some kind of record. An acquaintance of mine who works in a Farnham garage reports that they had a car come in that had added only travelled 8 miles since its MOT 12 months before. And presumably some, if not all, of those miles had been driving to and from the garage?

Putting the fizz in your life

Holidaying in the Cotswolds recently we noticed the following blue plaque on the wall of Winchcombe Abbey's 12th century corn mill. This says that the mill is the birthplace of Christopher Merrett (1614-1695), scientist, physician, naturalist and metallurgist. Apparently in 1662 he documented how to put the fizz into sparkling wine. Did you know that? No, me neither.

Troglodytes troglodytes

You may not know the Latin name of most birds (I don't), but you may enjoy the Wren's official name, *Troglodytes troglodytes*. It's Latin for 'cave dweller.' Wrens may sometimes be cave dwellers, strange though it may seem, as they thrive almost anywhere, in mountains, moors, seashores, forests, hedgerows, woods, farmyards and gardens. They certainly like little nooks and crannies. You may see a wren in a wood-pile, a fallen tree, a hedge-bottom, a bank, a wall, a porch, anywhere where it can find insects or grubs to feed on and a small corner where it can nest. The male wren is usually the nest-builder, and he will begin several nests, woven from brambles, ivy, grasses, and twigs. He may choose an empty wasps' nest, a clothes-peg bag, a hanging basket or a post box in which to build. He will then invite a female to inspect his work and make her choice. If all goes well, she will enter one of his offerings, the pair-bond will be sealed and she will proceed to line the nest with feathers, wool or down. Egg-laying and raising a brood will follow, perhaps two or more. Meanwhile, with several other nests available, the male may proceed to attract a second female to his territory and form a second family.

The wren may be one of our smallest and least conspicuous birds but it is certainly not shy and retiring. It may be just nine centimetres long, but with its cocked tail and piercing voice it makes its presence known. The wren, unlike some other birds, is not confiding towards people, and seems almost indifferent to us. We, on the other hand, regard the wren as endearing. Those of us who remember farthings (before decimal currency was introduced in the UK) will perhaps also remember the popular wren design on many of them.

Wrens have a feisty attitude to others on their patch and males especially will react aggressively to intruders. However, on cold winter nights wrens, like some other species, will roost together in wren 'dormitories.' A previously used nest or a nesting box may provide overnight accommodation for groups of wrens. Astonishingly, 60 individual wrens were observed entering and leaving one tit-box at dusk and dawn. One bird seems to be the ring-master of the roost, singing loudly to summon clients, and also keeping visitors out. Conditions inside must be pretty uncomfortable, with the birds squatting on top of each other in two or three layers, with bills facing outwards, as they share their bodies' warmth in the hours of darkness and cold. With its tiny size the wren is especially susceptible to cold, and harsh winters have been known to wipe out huge numbers of them. However, with their capacity for large clutches of eggs and multiple broods, wrens can achieve impressive recoveries in subsequent years.

Val Lewis

Over the years that I have been Editor of DNL, Val has been one of the Newsletter's most popular and widely read contributors. Each edition she pens articles that have that rare skill of being both informative and easy to read. Her love of birds shines through in every word she writes. Better yet, not only is she always on time with her contributions, she smashes the deadline into touch! And now I hope to repay just a tiny bit of her effort on our behalf by telling you that on 30 August Val celebrated her 80th birthday. She calls it her 'coming of age'. I call it 80 years young. Either way, Happy Birthday Val! On behalf of all DNL readers, I send you love and best wishes and hope you had the most wonderful day.

A final few words on the Olympics

Such is the way of the world right now that 2021 has been the year of the 2020 Olympics. And haven't the Brits done well? Fourth in the Olympics themselves and second, yes second, in the Paralympics. We should all be very proud.

A number of commentators and athletes at the Games might perhaps feel less proud of some of the things they have managed to say on air. These examples kindly sent to me by Peter Trout, resident of Sydney Australia and enthusiastic DNL reader.

Dressage commentator: *'This is a really lovely horse and I speak from personal experience as I once mounted her mother.'*

Participating gymnast: *'I owe a lot to my parents, especially my mother and father.'*

Boxing analyst: *'Sure there have been some injuries and even some deaths in boxing, but none of them really that serious.'*

Softball announcer: *'If history repeats itself, I think we should expect the same thing again.'*

Basketball analyst: *'He dribbles a lot and the opposition don't like it. In fact, you can see it all over their faces.'*

At the rowing medal ceremony: *'Ah, isn't that nice? The wife of the IOC President is hugging the cox of the British crew.'*

Tennis commentator: *'One of the reasons Andy is playing so well is that, before the final round, his wife takes out his balls and kisses them.'*



Steely clouds gather over Dockenfield. Photographed from Old Lane by Ronnie Bennett

Butterflies on Bealeswood Common

June 10 - 16	1 x common blue, 5 x speckled wood, 5 x meadow brown
June 24 - 30	1 x small/Essex skipper, 1 x large skipper, 6 x marbled white, 45 x meadow brown
July 1 - 7	10 x marbled white, 27 x meadow brown, 1 x ringlet
July 8 - 14	4 x small/Essex skipper, 1 x Essex skipper, 1 x common blue, 1 x comma, 18 x marbled white, 75 x meadow brown, 2 x ringlet
July 15 - 21	21 x small/Essex skipper, 5 x large white, 7 x small white, 1 x comma, 8 x speckled wood, 14 x marbled white, 14 x gatekeeper, 56 x meadow brown, 7 x ringlet
July 22 - 28	7 x small/Essex skipper, 1 x brimstone, 5 mx large white, 1 x green-veined white, 11 x marbled white, 10 x gatekeeper, 59 x meadow brown, 14 x ringlet
July 29 - Aug 4	2 x brimstone, 2 x large white, 5 x small white, 5 x common blue, 2 x peacock, 1 x comma, 3 x speckled wood, 2 x marbled white, 64 x gatekeeper, 71 x meadow brown, 4 x purple hairstreak
Aug 5 - 11	48 x meadow brown, 13 x gatekeeper, 3 x purple hairstreak, 2 x small copper, 2 x large white, 2 x small/Essex skipper, 1 x brimstone, 1 x common blue

The chart shows the number of butterflies counted on the Butterfly Conservation Transect each week. However other butterflies are seen on the Common on other occasions. Two butterflies – the Green Hairstreak and the Purple Hairstreak - have been recorded for the first time thanks to the dedication and photographic skills of Alex Potts.

She has identified several small colonies of Purple Hairstreaks on the Common and a fuller explanation of where they can be found, along with photographs and details of her observations can be found on the Bealeswood Common notice board as well as on the Parish Council website. She has also recorded and photographed a Green Hairstreak, earlier in the year, which has not been seen here before as far as we know.

There are reckoned to be 57 resident British butterflies, plus 2 regular migrants, and just under half of these have now been recorded on Bealeswood Common – what a very special piece of land!

Alison Bosence, Philippa Hall, Claire Jackson, Anne Tutt



A stunning close up of Astartia, photographed by Ronnie Bennett

Church Ladies with Typewriters

These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins around the world, or were announced at church services. They were kindly sent in by Diana Parratt. I should add that none of them have been taken from our own excellent Parish Magazine:

- The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.
- Scouts are saving aluminium cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children
- The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water'. The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus'.
- Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.
- Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.
- Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.
- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.
- Next Thursday there will be try-outs for the choir. They need all the help they can get.
- Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24 in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.
- A bean supper will be held on Tuesday evening in the church hall. Music will follow.
- At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be 'What Is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

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