

# DNL Dockenfield newsletter

News and events from in and around the village of Dockenfield  
Issue 289 Published 17 May 2022

## D Day is back!

**Dockenfield Day: Saturday 4 June  
2-6pm at the Playing Field, Abbots Cottages**

After 2 years of cancellations, D-Day is back and just around the corner. The theme this year is **The Queen's Platinum Jubilee**. Please join us on **Saturday 4th June, 2-6pm at the Playing Field, Abbots Cottages**.

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 Out of the Blue Jazz Band. There'll be the annual tug of war too, the legendary Dockenfield Dog Show, and of course plenty of races for the kids. 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? 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 pages 5 and 6)*

**Roly Miles and Nathalie Griffiths**



**The glory of Dockenfield Days past. Photos by Hugh Evans**

### **Coming up and not to be missed:**

- The Renewables Event at Frensham Mill **21 May**, page 2
- British Legion Centenary and Platinum Open Day **3 June**, page 7
- The 'Gordian Knot' Murder Mystery Play at the Good Shepherd **15-18 June**, page 2
- Frensham Fayre and Party in the Park **18 June**, page 3
- 'The Art and Craft of our Parish' at the Good Shepherd **21-23 October**, page 20

## **‘The Gordian Knot’: A murder mystery play** **Wednesday-Saturday, 15-18 June, 7.30pm nightly at the Good Shepherd**

There’s been a murder at the Good Shepherd! And it’s you who get to work out who dunnit. But, as Poirot would say, you had better get your little grey cells working as there are a host of potential culprits, all with seemingly powerful motives to kill.

The play’s title comes from the Greek legend of the same name, in which the ‘Gordian Knot’ proves uncommonly tough to unravel. So it is appropriate that the play is set on a luxury liner off the coast of Greece. There’s 1920s glamour, flirtation, intrigue and suspicion as the guests sail the Aegean Sea, blissfully unaware at the start of their journey of the mortal danger they are in.

The play is set in three acts; savoury canapes will be served in the first interval and sweet canapes in the second. You will have plenty of time to digest the facts (and the lovely food) as you and your friends try and figure out who is guilty. There will be a pay bar selling wine and soft drinks, to help those grey cells swing into top gear.

The play has been written and directed by Hilary Lee-Corbin, whose quite wonderful production of two Noel Coward plays at St Mary’s captivated us all a couple of years ago. Brace yourselves for a fascinating evening, enjoying the show and seeing if you can spot the murderer. It is by no means obligatory, but you are invited to dress in 1920’s costume if you wish.

Tickets cost just £20pp and can be booked, with numbered seats, at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/frensham-churches](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/frensham-churches), or by calling 01252 793138. Not surprisingly after the success of the earlier Noel Coward plays at St Mary’s, tickets are already selling fast, so better look lively and book yours now.



## **Open Renewables Event at Frensham Mill** **Saturday 21 May 10am-1pm The Mill House, Mill Lane, Frensham**



Project specification	
Property type:	Country estate
Technologies installed:	 
Collector type:	
Size (kW):	44
New/retrofit:	Retrofit
Brand:	Viesmann

**Looking after the environment and our churches.** With the continuing climate crisis and soaring oil, gas and electricity prices we are organising an open event dedicated to ‘Renewable Energy in our Homes’ - proceeds from the sale of refreshments and a collection will be for the benefit of ‘Friends of Frensham Churches’ – dedicated to caring for these historic buildings.

**Free access to expertise and educational kits.** The idea is to give access to experts on what we might be able to do, as well as hands on educational kits that will allow children to create their own water wheels, solar panel kits and a wind turbine!

**ISO Energy are experts in renewable energy systems,** and should help with questions like what happens when my oil/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? Edward Levien will give a short presentation at 10.30am, 11.30am and 12.30pm and will be available for questions.

Park as signed in the adjoining field, access off Pitt Lane. To help us with refreshment planning please RSVP to [rogerholmes@mac.com](mailto:rogerholmes@mac.com) We look forward to seeing you!

**Roger Holmes**

## **Dockenfield Skittles Night returns!** **Friday 4 November, 7pm at the Jolly Farmer, Blacknest**

Dockenfield Skittles Night is back: how lovely is that. One of the nicest evenings of the year, with skittles, a choice of four meals, excellent company and real ale at the bar. Skittles and the meal for just £17. Please reserve the date in your diaries for now, with full details and booking form in the next DNL, or contact Katy Poulson 07703 519488.

## Contrast and compare

There is so much wrong in the world right now, not least the ghastly suffering in Ukraine with an unforgiveable war, the knock-on effects of which are having a dreadful impact on the most vulnerable here and around the world. So many people locally are springing into action: offering space in their homes; making mercy missions; donating financially, materially or to the Foodbank; or helping out and supporting in many other ways.

These events draw into sharp focus how precious is the democracy that in this country we can often take for granted; and how truly fortunate we are to live in such a delightful part of the (free) world. I was reflecting on this as I was writing this DNL, packed as it is with delightful things to do. And I wanted to share these thoughts with you.

**Michael**

## Will you help shape the future of DNL?

At the end of this year, after 100 editions and 17 years, Michael Foster is stepping down as Editor of DNL. As well as looking for an editor to take over, The Parish Council wants to hear from residents about the hopes they have for DNL in the future and invites everybody to please submit their ideas. See page 4 for details.

## Frensham Fayre, Saturday 18 June

### Fayre from 1pm

After 2 years we are back with our Royal Jubilee celebration event. We have many new stalls offering something for everyone, but the usual attractions are not forgotten. The children will once again be queuing for the Bungee Trampolines, the Pony Rides, the Assault Course, the Punch & Judy Shows plus the return of Clown Rico's workshop.

Bring along your 4-legged friend and enter the dog show with many doggie rewards on offer. The ever-popular Pimm's tent and Real Ale Bar selling wine and Prosecco will be available for refreshments after deciding which food stall to visit. The Church BBQ, Pizza, Thai BBQ, or German Sausage. So, join us for lunch after the traditional village parade, buy your Grand Draw tickets and enjoy the celebrations. A full programme of events will be on our website

### Party in the Park at 8pm

Once again Frensham's very own live music event will continue the celebrations well into the night with a fully licensed bar and a choice of food.

This ticket only event is always a sell out so check our Facebook and web pages for the latest information on availability.

**Geoff King**

## Surrey Artists Open Studios

This annual event over all of Surrey is back in June, and there's lots of activity with Dockenfield artists and makers.

### At Jeffreys Cottage, Bealeswood Lane

We are opening our pop-up exhibition again at Jeffreys Cottage, Bealeswood Lane, where five artists and makers will be showing work and some of the working methods in our airy garage and shed: **Vicki Nigoumi** with still-life paintings, **Shirley Stephens** showing lino prints, **Ruta Brown** jewellery, **Julia Quigley** ceramics, and with my knitwear, wool dyeing and other processes going on as well.

### At The Oaks, The Street

**Lynne Thomas** also has her Garden Studio open at The Oaks, in The Street, and will be showing her latest original wildlife paintings, together with Limited Edition Prints, cushions, coasters and cards. She also paints abstract landscapes and will be showing both original paintings and prints.

### At The Kiln, Badshot Lea

**Alex Potts** from Dockenfield will be showing her wildlife photos alongside work from other members of The Kiln Photo Community at the Kiln, St George's Rd, Badshot Lea. Kiln Photo is also part of the SAOS North Surrey Arts Trail.

### Opening times:

We love to meet people and chat, so do drop in: we will be well advertised with orange signs.

All are open on **11 and 12 June**, from 11-5 each day; then Jeffreys Cottage and Lynne Thomas from **16-19 June**; Lynne is also open from **24-26 June**; and the Kiln is open **17-19** and **23-26 June**. For details of the whole event and illustrations of the work on show, see <https://surreyopenstudios.org.uk>

**Alison Ellen**

## **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, please advise the Clerk beforehand. The agenda can be found on the Parish Council website a week before the meeting: [www.dockenfieldpc.org.uk](http://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](mailto:dockenfieldclerk@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Future Parish Council Meeting Dates**

Tuesday **17 May 7.45pm** (Annual Parish Meeting) and Tuesday **21 June 8pm**, both at The Good Shepherd.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) will be held on Tuesday 17 May at 7.45pm at the Church of the Good Shepherd. This will be the first APM held in person since 2019 so do come along to hear what the Parish Council has been working on, with a presentation on the Surrey Hills AONB Boundary Review, and it is a great opportunity to make your views heard. Tea/coffee and light refreshments will be served.

### **New Councillor**

We thank Richard Blackburn for over 10 years of service to the community as parish councillor. Amanda Adolph is stepping in as our new parish councillor and she was co-opted in at the April parish council meeting. We wish Amanda all the best in her new role. Amanda said: *"I would like to thank Dockenfield Parish Council for welcoming me so warmly into the fold. As a long-term resident of Dockenfield, some 23 years this year, I am looking forward to serving the community, fairly, objectively, responsibly, to the very best of my ability and aspire to fill some undeniably 'big shoes'."*

### **Ukraine**

A warm welcome to the Ukrainian families that have joined us recently in the community. We understand that approximately 15 families are already in the Farnham, Frensham, Dockenfield and Rowledge area. Whilst the circumstances that have necessitated this are obviously shockingly awful we hope that you are able to enjoy your time in our community (see also page 19).

### **Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Boundary Review**

A number of Dockenfield residents attended a recent update meeting on the Natural England AONB boundary review. The evidence gathering stage is now complete and analysis of the evidence is in progress evaluating the "natural beauty" of the area which takes in aspects of landscape beauty, scenic quality, wildness, tranquillity and natural and cultural heritage. This is not likely to be a quick process and will lead to statutory and public consultation on the proposed extensions likely in early 2023. More information will be shared at the Annual Parish Meeting (see above).

### **DNL (Dockenfield Newsletter)**

After 17 years and nearly 100 editions of the DNL, Michael Foster has informed us of his intention to pass on the baton after his 100<sup>th</sup> edition as Editor later this year. The dedication and professionalism which Michael has shown in editing DNL is immense, taking it from a modest bi-fold sheet to where it is today. Many thanks also to Debbie Foster for her invaluable work in laying out each and every edition. We are truly grateful to Michael and Debbie for all that they have done and will continue to do through to their 100<sup>th</sup> edition.

The Parish Council have discussed this with Michael and it does present an opportunity to evolve DNL in a new direction. Should DNL be more digitally based? Perhaps a hybrid approach with a social media style for more real-time notifications with a less frequent paper-based edition for less time sensitive articles? There are many ways that DNL could evolve – the email readership outside the village is actually larger than the paper distribution within the village - we want to hear your views on how you would like the DNL to evolve and most importantly we need a new DNL Editor volunteer.

### **Pedestrian Road Safety**

At the last parish council meeting the issue of pedestrian road safety on The Street was raised by Karen Wane, Bryony Bentley, Ben Robinson and Nicky Rutherford. The idea of a 'virtual' footpath was discussed together with other potential solutions e.g. 20mph speed limit, additional chicanes. We will be taking advice from Surrey Highways on the most appropriate way(s) to improve pedestrian road safety.

### **Defibrillator at the Bluebell**

We have now had the second defib installed on the wall of the Bluebell Pub, many thanks to Lucy and Robin. It is great to have one at either end of the village; the other being in the phone box at Abbotts Cottages.

### **Phone Box**

As you all know the phone box is looking very sorry for itself. You will be pleased to hear the Parish Council are in the process of purchasing a newly refurbished phone box. This will be re-sited next to the village sign, so it isn't under a tree. The new phone box will still be housing the defibrillator.

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

# Dockenfield Day

## Saturday 4 June

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

#### Dockenfield celebrates The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Saturday 4 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're able to help out – in whatever capacity then please email the committee at [Dockenfield.Activities@gmail.com](mailto:Dockenfield.Activities@gmail.com). The more people helping the merrier.

**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 stuff:** 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 Tel: 792442  
or Pam Hibbert, Manor House, Old Lane Tel: 792573

#### Books/DVDs/Music/Paintings\*\*

Jason Griffiths Batts Cottage, Batts Corner

#### Raffle Prizes

Christine Allingham, Tytherley, The Street

#### Toys for the Toy Stall

Joolz Miles, Orchard End, Bealeswood Lane Tel: 07833 355359

#### 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

#### Bouncy Castle

#### Space Hopper Sprint

#### Bar and Real Ale

#### Bash the Rat

#### Coconut Shy

#### Tea and Cakes

#### Frensham Village Shop

#### Human Fruit Machine

#### Children's Races

#### All day BBQ

#### Raffle

#### Book Stall/Music/Pictures

#### Tombola

#### Face Painting

#### Garden Plants

#### Ice Cream

#### Toy Stall

#### Tug of War

#### Fun Dog Show

#### Pole Joust

#### Fancy Dress

#### Programme of Events

Timings are approx

2pm	Fete opens
2.05pm	Stalls open
2.40-3pm	Punch and Judy
3-3.30pm	Children's Races
3.30-4pm	Tug of War contest
4-4.45pm	'Out of the Blue' Jazz Band
4.45pm	Raffle draw, Children's Parade & Prize Giving
5pm	Fun Dog Show (all dogs welcome, please arrive by 4.50pm)
5.15-6pm	'Out of the Blue' Jazz Band
6pm	Close

### **Additional information on Dockenfield Day**

- \* This year's Competition. It's up to you how you come dressed, so have your 'Platinum Jubilee' outfits 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.
- \* Please will dog owners keep their pets under close control at all times.

If you want to know more about how you can help, then please email the committee:

**dockenfield.activities@gmail.com**

### **Frensham Peddlars**

#### **Meet every Thursday evening, 6pm at Hollowdene**

The Frensham and Dockenfield Season 2 is under way - this is a 'Live Cycle Ride' and cannot be found on any streaming channels! We cycle every Thursday night for approx 2 hours covering between 12 - 15 miles of bridleways and country lanes. We meet at 6pm at Hollowdene Recreation Park in Frensham and aim to leave around 6.10pm

Lots of fun and a great way to discover new routes around our beautiful countryside - we also have a pit stop en-route! No cost - just turn up and join in and if you are familiar with the area, we welcome new leaders! If you would like further information, please email [vicki.hinde@btopenworld.com](mailto:vicki.hinde@btopenworld.com)

Look forward to meeting some new peddlars - all bike types - including e-bikes - road bikes not suitable for some of the paths.

**Vicki Hinde**

### **'Spring into Summer' Concert by Cantique Chamber Choir**

#### **Saturday 28 May, 6pm at St Mary's Church, Upper Froyle**

If you enjoy music by Rutter, Elgar, Gibbon and Morley (amongst others), then this concert is definitely for you. It is being held in the beautiful St Mary's Church, Upper Froyle, GU34 4LB to celebrate its re-opening after extensive re-wiring and redecoration.

Cantique was founded in 1997 by Richard Potter and Bob Warren, both highly experienced choristers and musical directors to create a small choir of friends who sing for pleasure and to raise money for worthwhile causes. The choir lives on, with Richard Walshaw appointed as the new musical director in February this year.

Tickets need to be booked in advance from Caroline Findlay (01420 22019) or Karen Potter ([kwilson2525@btinternet.com](mailto:kwilson2525@btinternet.com)) to reserve a seat, and entry is by donation to include wine and nibbles. Please give generously to help pay for the refurbishment and continuing repair costs.

I have recently had the pleasure of joining the choir and look forward to taking part in future fund-raising concerts. For more information see [www.cantique.org](http://www.cantique.org)

**Debbie Foster**

### **Millbridge WI**

With meetings now pretty much back to 'normal', Millbridge WI has been able to bring members together for various events in the past few months. Recent meetings have included speakers on 'Love and Ardour', Farnham Castle through the ages and also a professional demonstration of flower arranging skills. May's monthly meeting will be on glass painting and June will provide inspiration for gardeners. The annual garden party at a member's house will take place in July, followed by a talk on the RSPB in August.

A recently held quiz night at Frensham Royal British Legion helped raise funds, and upcoming outings are planned for the summer months, along with our regular inter-WI competitions. The WI cake and produce stall will be back at the Frensham Fayre on Saturday 18 June. Monthly meetings take place in the Marindin Hall on the third Thursday of each month, and new members and visitors will be most welcome. More details are available on our website ([www.millbridgewi.co.uk](http://www.millbridgewi.co.uk)), Facebook and Instagram pages.

**Janet McFadyen**

## News from our Parish hostelries

### **The Bluebell (Tel: 792801; [www.bluebell-dockenfield.com](http://www.bluebell-dockenfield.com))**

How can it be May already? We've had such a positive start to the year here and one of our busiest weeks in 9 and a half years a few weeks ago! Our polytunnel is up and what was our play house is now going to hopefully become a 'kitchen garden' starting with courgettes and pumpkins. We are already making use of our home-grown herbs in the kitchen.

We don't have any major events planned, but we are gearing up for a busy Queen's Jubilee long weekend, so definitely book if you plan to visit then.

### **Regular 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](mailto:bluebelldockenfield@icloud.com) or by calling 01252 792801.

### **Men's Night**

The Bluebell hosts the ever-popular Men's Night that takes place on the second Thursday of every month, from 8pm. The next two dates are Thursdays **9 June and 14 July**. See page 10 for more details.

### **Takeaways**

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

It's been lovely to see many of you in the pub and your support is hugely appreciated.

**Lucy, Robin and The Bluebell Team xx**

### **The Holly Bush, Frensham (Tel: 447060 [www.thehollybush.co.uk](http://www.thehollybush.co.uk))**

Regulars at the Holly Bush, and indeed most passers-by, will have seen the Ukrainian flag flying proudly from their flagpole. But the pub has offered so much more than this emotional support by organising, indeed operating, a mercy drive of supplies to the Ukrainian border. See the full article on page 19.

### **Frensham Royal British Legion Club and Branch (Tel: 793014, [www.frenshamrbl.org.uk](http://www.frenshamrbl.org.uk)) Centenary and Platinum Jubilee Open Day – Friday 3 June 3pm to 11.30pm.**

We are celebrating 100 years of the club and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – all are welcome and admission is free. In the afternoon there will be Morris dancers, children's activities (including 'Make a Crown at Home' competition and 'Beat the Goalie'), tombolas, bric-a-brac, plant and book stalls, afternoon tea with fun quizzes and Hoy Bingo and a grand raffle. A good afternoon for friends and families. In the evening there will be music and a barbeque, followed at 8.30pm by Brobed Stils, one of Farnham's finest bands. (If you receive a printed copy of DNL then you should receive a flier with full details for this event.)

### **Open Mic Nights**

The Legion held the first of a series of open mic nights on 26 April, with a great selection of local talent, both professional and amateur, playing folk, blues, American folk-rock, American country-rock and rag. This is intended to be a regular event at 8pm on the fourth Tuesday of every month, ie 24 May (not 31 May as in the Parish Magazine), 28 June, 26 July and 23 August. Just turn up either to listen or take part. **Janet Caiger**

### **Craft Brews Brewery and Taproom (Tel: 07774 982174 ; [@CraftBrewsUK](http://www.CraftBrews.UK))**

Friday 11 – 8 pm

Saturday 11 – 8 pm

Sunday 11 – 7 pm

We are open with seating available in our Taproom, Marquee and on our Terrace.

Additional opening hours / food events are posted weekly to our website / social media.

Please check out our website / social media for special events over the Platinum Jubilee Weekend.

**Joe Wood**

## Bealeswood Common

Bealeswood Wildlife Recording Group (BWRG) was founded at the onset of the first Covid-19 Lockdown in March 2020 with the aim of recording all wildlife at the Main Common, the Bluebell "Triangle" and the Lower Common off Bealeswood Lane and includes the pond near the lane's intersection with the bridle path.

Monthly notes and photographs on the wildlife are pinned to the noticeboard on the Common and an annual checklist of all species recorded from members of the group is posted on the Parish Council Website <http://www.dockenfieldpc.org.uk/wildlife.html>. The membership of the group is listed on the Read Me tab on the checklist.

Over the last two years the group has recorded an impressive list of vertebrates (11 mammals, 62 birds and 4 amphibians) and 147 invertebrates including 27 butterfly species and six out of the seven principal British bumblebee populations. A study commissioned by Waverley Ranger Mrs Vicky Keller as part of the National Vegetation Survey in 2021 noted eighteen different plant communities. These included eight plants on the English 'Red List' of rare or endangered species. The BWRG recorded 136 flowering species, 21 grasses/sedges, 33 trees/shrubs and 11 fungi; the latter from an initial study to be progressed in autumn 2022.

Perhaps the most exciting find of 2021 was a thriving colony of Purple Hairstreak butterflies. It is not rated as a rare species but normally discreetly hidden in the crown of a tall oak. It provides one of the ultimate challenges of observation, rewarding only the most patient and dedicated experts. Thus, it was a thrill for all the group to find several enjoying the sun on many August afternoons just above the Main Common seat.

One achievement that may have passed you by followed when, supporting Vicky's submission, the group answered many of the wildlife and conservation queries from inspectors judging the international Green Flag Awards. As a result, Bealeswood Common was one of two new winners within Waverley Borough which impressively now has 10 of the 161 awards across the SE region (see <https://www.greenflagaward.org/about-the-award/>).

**Alan Cox on behalf of BWRG**

## Bealeswood Wildlife Group walks 2022

**Saturday 25 June.** 10.00 till 12.00. Meet outside Jeffery's Cottage, Bealeswood Lane, GU10 4HS. Summer Flowers walk. Numbers restricted to 10 on first come first served basis. Bookings with Dan at [dwbosence@btinternet.com](mailto:dwbosence@btinternet.com) or 01252 792442.

**Saturday 2 July.** 9.30 Meet at Bealeswood Common noticeboard or 10.00 at Abbots Wood Inclosure carpark GU10 4HA. Walk until 11.30. Good paths. Butterfly walk to see, perhaps, Purple Emperor and certainly others along the way. Coffee stop at Alice Holt visitor centre after. Info from Steve: 07530 044278.

**Friday 22 July.** 21.30-22.30 meet at the corner car park Frensham Common GU10 3DW. Nightjars and other night-time wildlife. Steve: 07530 044278.

**Friday 19 August.** 20.30 -22.00 Meet at Bealeswood Common noticeboard. Bat walk. Listening and watching bats at sunset, walking to Frensham Mill and back; good paths. Steve: 07530 044278.

**Steve Luckett**

## Meanwhile, at 6am one Sunday....

How many people do you think would pitch up for a 'Dawn Chorus' walk at 6am on a Sunday morning? Well, 29 was the answer on 1 May (International Dawn Chorus Day 2022). Be honest now, you didn't expect the answer to be so high did you? But what a grand time was had by all as we walked quietly along the local wooded paths listening out for the birdsong. And that came in great abundance, just see the list at the end of this article.

And then back to Alison and Dan Bosence's for coffee and quite delicious home-made croissants. At the end of that scrumptious breakfast a collection was made for the Ukrainian Disaster Emergency Appeal with £220 donated plus any other monies that were subsequently done on-line.

List of birds heard: Nuthatch; Wood pigeon; Stock dove; Blackbird; Song thrush; Mistle thrush; Robin; Wren; Magpie; Chaffinch; Jackdaw; Cuckoo; Canada geese; Great tit; Chiff chaff; Pheasant; Firecrest; Crow; Blackcap and Collared dove. Swallows were seen but not heard.

## Sculpture News

Last year was a really good one for selling sculpture, people not going on holidays and having money to burn perhaps? This year I was able to create another large sculpture for 'Sculpture by the Lakes' in Dorset, a fabulous place to visit by the way. The sculpture is called 'Theia (Goddess of Light)' and reaches 4.2m high. This is my latest bronze sculpture and a copy of her will also be featured at 'The Grange Festival' in Alresford this summer for any of you lucky enough to get tickets! I was posing here on the Private View day while very subtly showing my solidarity with Ukraine- perhaps it was too subtle?

**Nicola Godden**



## Please remember the Foodbank

We first started collecting for the Foodbank almost exactly two years ago, on 7 May 2020, and since then we have collected an astonishing 11,035 items of food and toiletries. So, the first thing to say is the hugest ‘thank you’ to everyone who has donated. You are making such a difference.

The retreat of the pandemic has however meant a noticeable falling off of donations at the very time that rising energy prices and general inflation has seen ‘a sudden surge in demand’. So once again, sadly, the need is pressing. If you are able to help, in whatever way and however modestly, 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 each week.
- 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.

All contributions of non-perishable items are hugely welcome provided they are within code. Or, if you prefer, put cash donations through the door and we’ll do the shopping. Thank you so much.

**Michael and Debbie Foster and Heather Britton**

*The photo top left taken inside one of the foodbank warehouses shows a contribution, from our Parish, on the floor waiting to be sorted and stacked.*



**Above: Saffi the dog leading the Dawn Chorus walk. See left**

**Below: Nicola Godden and her sculpture ‘Theia (Goddess of Light)’. See left**



## Springtime topics

As the Spring gets under way and lightens our spirits two bird-related topics may be of interest to readers of the DNL:

The first Cuckoos have apparently arrived in the UK, and people are reporting sightings from a number of places. Dockenfield residents will no doubt be keen to join their numbers (see the ‘Cuckoo Clock’ on page 11) It always amazes me to consider the long-distance flights made each year by these intriguing birds. The British Trust for Ornithology reports that five Cuckoos which were fitted with tiny satellite tags during last year’s breeding season have survived their autumn return to central Africa and are on their 8,000 km (4,970 miles) migration back to the UK. One, named Cuckoo Ellis, has already arrived at his breeding grounds in Scotland.

A favourite family activity, especially in the warmer months, is taking the children to feed the ducks. This often seems to involve feeding them with large amounts of bread, which can be harmful to ducks, and can cause malnutrition and disease. Bread can also pollute the water in lakes and ponds. Ducks eat aquatic insects, snails, worms, pond weed and other vegetation, which are readily available in their natural habitats. A healthy balanced diet is especially important during the breeding season. Alternatives which can be safely fed to ducks could include modest amounts of peas, sweetcorn and chopped lettuce or other greens. Enjoy watching the birds during the Spring and Summer months.

**Val Lewis**

*Wouldn’t you just know it! In the last DNL, Val wrote a fascinating piece on bird flu, and was able to accurately say that, at the time of writing, no cases had occurred in Surrey or Hampshire. On 6 February, just after DNL had been sent to the printers, the papers reported an outbreak of bird flu had been confirmed near Bishop’s Waltham in Hampshire. DEFRA said that all the birds at the affected premises were humanely culled and the appropriate protection and surveillance zones were introduced.*



## Hedge Planting

On a sunny Saturday morning in late February, the village's new field by the sports pitch gained a 160-metre-long hedge. A brilliant turn out of around 20 members of the village, armed to the teeth with their garden tools and provisioned with Jill's tea and biscuits, planted 660 hedging plants and 8 trees along the boundary with the main field. While half of the plants were funded by the Parish Council, Surrey County Council provided the remaining trees and whips as part of their effort to increase tree cover in the county. Our thanks to Jessica Hobday, our Parish Clerk, for liaising with the County Council to ensure the success of our bid.

The hedge is a mixture of holly, oak, hawthorn, blackthorn, spindle, hazel, birch and dogrose. The trees, which are planted at intervals in the hedge, are cherry, oak, alder and beech - all native and deciduous. If property is about location, location, location, the Open Spaces Group decided that planting is all about preparation, preparation, preparation. To give the plants the best chance in extremely heavy clay soil, Roger arranged for a digger to prepare a trench which was backfilled with topsoil. To stop the plant roots facing too much competition, he sourced some coir matting to suppress weed growth and even painted spots on it to get the plant spacing correct. To stop everything being eaten by deer, Roger also devised a cunning netting system. And every volunteer was presented with a pack of plants prepared the day before by Alison, Nathalie and Dan.

It was a very successful and enjoyable morning. The hedge will now be left to establish itself and after a while we will start to cut it in the autumn after the bird nesting season. Over time the coir matting will biodegrade and the netting will be removed once the plants have established themselves properly and are no longer at risk from deer. Hopefully in four years or so we should have a fairly well-established hedge, to be admired on future D-Days and enjoyed by the local wildlife!

**Nathalie Griffiths, Dan Bosence, Roger and Jill Trout, John Stirling  
(the Open Spaces Group)**

## Monthly Organ Recitals at St Mary's Church

The monthly Organ Recitals in St Mary's Church, which started up again in September last year, take place on the 3rd Tuesday of every month with visiting organists presenting varied programmes of organ music.

The series continues with Anthony Gritten (Royal Academy of Music) on **17 May**; Mike Smith (St Mary's, Frensham, this to be confirmed) on **21 June**; Richard Pearce (BBC) on **19 July**; Tim Rivalde (Chichester Cathedral) on **16 August**; and Claudia Grinnell (Winchester Cathedral) on **20 September**. There will be rolls and soup for all available from 12 midday in the church hall, 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.

**Mike Smith**

## Village Lunch

Village Lunch is growing in numbers each month. Lunch for **25 May** will be curry and rice with a vegetarian version together with the choice of puddings and the stall and raffle are for the lunch on the bowls club. The lunch on **22 June** will be bangers, mash and beans with vegetarian sausages as an alternative plus the numerous choices of puddings and the stall and raffle will be for the bell ringers. Looking forward to **27 July** the lunch will be ham and egg salad, again with all the puddings and the stall and raffle will be for the church flowers.

There is no need to book just turn up with your £5.00. You can arrive from 11.45am onwards and lunch will be served at 12.30pm prompt.

**Pam Watmore**

## Men's Night at the Bluebell

These happen every second Thursday of the month at the Bluebell and are delightfully convivial affairs. They start from 8pm, with most people eating although that isn't obligatory. There is fun, companionship and good conversation. You don't have to live in Dockenfield to attend, all are welcome although it's probably best if you are male and over 18! The next two dates are **9 June** and **14 July**. Full details from Mark Rosling: [markrosling@outlook.com](mailto:markrosling@outlook.com)

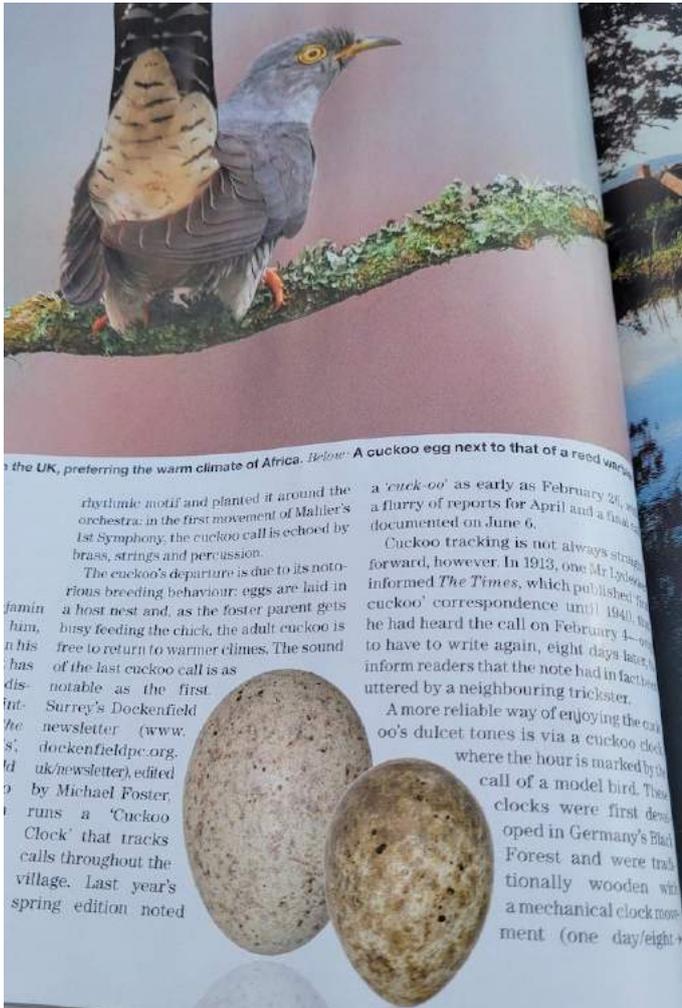
## DNL's Cuckoo Clock 2022

Ok, dear cuckoo, what kept you? last year the first DNL reader to hear its distinctive sound reported in on 26 February. But this year it appeared a month and a half later. Many people don't appreciate that this iconic bird is on the 'red list' of threatened wildlife and so this could be a reason for its later arrival and the fewer numbers of readers writing in this year to report that they had heard it. Anyway, here is this year's list in chronological order

**15 April** (Good Friday, as it happens) and at 5.45pm Anne Tutt hears DNL's very first cuckoo at Great Holt. It carried on being very chatty in the following days, according to Anne.

**17 April:** at 10am Harold Parratt hears the cuckoo for the first time near Hatch Pond (that's the one on the left as you approach the village from Frensham. Then at 11:48am (I just love how exact that is!) Claire Jackson heard him at Tutt's Field, Great Holt.

**18 April:** Jill Denbigh both hears and sees 'Colin the Cuckoo' a well-known personality at Thursley Common.



**21 April:** It pays to wake early as at 6am, Dan Bosence hears the cuckoo in Bealeswood Lane. Not long after, Jane Kenney hears it at Frensham Little Pond. Then in quick succession, at 12.53pm and 12.55pm to be precise, Steve Lockett and Alison Bosence both here it 'in the bluebell woods'. I am assuming those are the bluebells up on the ridge, but I may be wrong.

**30 April:** After a long gap (where has Mr Cuckoo been?), Debbie Foster hears her first cuckoo along 'Innams Path' (aka 'The Coffin Route')

**1 May:** at around 06.30am some 29 people all enjoying the 'Dawn Chorus Walk' hear the cuckoo at the same time along the path behind the Bluebell. I was on that walk and so heard it for the first time then.

**2 May:** And after a slow start, the cuckoo is making up for lost time with lots of readers hearing its call: Jack Bessant heard it at 07.15am and Marjorie about 10 minutes later, in 'two different parts of their garden (in The Street), coming from the direction of High Thicket.' That same morning Ben Poulson and Roger and Jill Trout all hear the same cuckoo at the same time at Batts Corner. Meanwhile Catherine Timson emails to say: 'I heard the cuckoo earlier, it sounded like it was right across the road from our house (Bower Hill.) I assume you're running your annual survey of when the cuckoo is heard?' Sure am, Catherine!

**6 May:** Fiona Ricketts hears its unmistakable call at 10am on the 'Fish Path' by Frensham Mill

## And now.....DNL's nationally famous 'Cuckoo Clock'

Dockenfield's very own **Claire Jackson** is a journalist of some quality and was recently commissioned to write an article for 'Country Life' magazine about Cuckoos for their 6 April 2022 edition. And, bless her, as you can see from the picture, she included a mention of DNL's 'Cuckoo Clock'. We only have room here to include a picture of the page on which DNL was mentioned, but if you'd like a copy of the complete article, 'Country Life' ( [www.countrylife.co.uk](http://www.countrylife.co.uk) ) have kindly given permission for me to do so. Just email me at [michael.foster66@btinternet.com](mailto:michael.foster66@btinternet.com)

## April showers? Forget it

**Jack Bessant** reports that the rainfall for the last 4 months has been January: 37.2mm; February: 206.1mm; March: 49.8mm; April: 17.4mm. February this year was the wettest since Dockenfield records began.

For comparison, the same months last year looked like this: January: 107.4mm; February: 52.2mm; March: 37.5mm; April: 9.6mm.

## Help the local economy

Did you know that, if every household in Farnham spent £10 per week in local shops that would boost the local economy by £9million pa? (Source: Farnham Town Council Guide 2022/3)

## St Mary's bells are ringing again.....

The bells and fittings were removed from the church tower in mid-January and transported to Taylor's bell foundry in Loughborough where they underwent a once-in-fifty-or-sixty-years' overhaul. The previous overhaul was in 1951, and since then (in 1973) two 'new' bells have been added.



The bells were returned to the church on Friday 18 March, and over the weekend they sat in the ground-floor ringing room, so could be viewed from the church.

On Sunday 20 March there was a special morning service at St Mary's during which the bells were blessed, anointed and re-dedicated by The Right Revd. Dr Jo Bailey-Wells (Bishop of Dorking).

Seven of the bells have dedications and inscriptions, but No.7 bell only the date, 1658, the end of Oliver Cromwell's era. However, this has now changed, because during the service Bishop Jo announced that the bell would be dedicated to Harry Glover and henceforth be known as "Harry's Bell" – a completely unexpected honour! Harry was gobsmacked when the revelation was made. The photograph shows Bishop Jo (kneeling) and the Revd Jane Walker and Harry during the dedication of No.7 bell.

The overhaul and rehanging truly is a once-in-lifetime event, and the cost this time round is around £30,000. The 1951 overhaul cost £463, albeit there were only six bells then.

If any readers of DNL would like to view the bells in the belfry first-hand, you will be very welcome – please get in touch with me.

**Harry Glover (Tel: 01252 797827; email: [harry.glover@btinternet.com](mailto:harry.glover@btinternet.com))**

## Coffee Stop Dockenfield

### Every Friday 10am-midday at the Good Shepherd

Coffee Stop is still popular and we are looking forward to being outside in the warmer weather. We now have a second-hand book stall; all books are 50p. Please keep supporting Coffee Stop, the best cafe in Dockenfield! Everyone welcome.

**Barbara Potter**

## 'Beloved Dockenfield .....

One beautiful spring morning in the village, **Jill Trout** re-discovered this final verse of "Dockenfield – Description of Joyous Church Life". Dedicated to Miss Andrews of Alder Holt, Dockenfield. An 18-page anthology, written by the Reverend Stanhope E. Ward, MA, who lived at Westhanger and was Vicar at the time that the Good Shepherd was built in 1911. I am including it in this edition because of its reference to the cuckoo.

*Beloved Dockenfield, thy very name  
Betokens all that country life should claim  
Of all things beautiful in earth and sky,  
Thy fragrant flowers, the cuckoo's distant cry,  
To thee a rich and bounteous share is given,*

*The song of children and the hope of Heaven.  
Long may remain thy simple ways of peace  
And every cause of shame within thee cease.  
May noble lives be lived for noblest ends  
Where'er Thy lovely boundaries extend.*



## News from our Churches

**Easter Service:** Easter Day was a great celebration this year with over 100 people in church. We usually are packed to the gunnels at Easter with around 230 people, but after Covid and in these times of pandemic recovery I think we had a fabulous crowd! We certainly rejoiced with the choir singing the Hallelujah Chorus and then fizz and nibbles after the service. The children had their very own Easter hunt during the service too.

**An invitation to all for the Ascension Day service:** Jesus' ascension is a strategic part of his overall journey and yet few people, including Christians(!), even acknowledge the day, which is purported to be 40 days after he rose from the dead. Ten days later the Holy Spirit, which Jesus had promised, came upon the Disciples and this day – Pentecost – birthed the 'church' which later developed into what we are today. We will be celebrating Ascension on Thursday 26 May in St Mary's Church at 7.30pm. This will be followed afterwards by fizz and nibbles in the church hall. Come and join the celebration - all welcome! Pentecost will be celebrated on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> June at 8am in the church of the Good Shepherd and 10.30am in St Mary's Church.

**Charities service:** Every year, St Mary's Frensham Trust – the almsgiving arm of the Benefice – supports many charities by giving grants of money so that they can continue their good works. People on the church electoral roll can nominate their favourite charity each year to receive a grant. Because the giving is given from interest on capital investments, regardless of the economic situation, we can always give grants, which is so reassuring! The charities supported are local, national and international. This year on 19 June we will be holding a special service to value as many of the charities that can come. The service will be in St Mary's Church at 10.30am. Do come along to support your charity, gain information about other charities and give generously if able.

**The Very Reverend Colin Semper:** Colin, who was honorary house-for-duty priest for the benefice here between 2003 and 2006, sadly died in late April after about 5 years of severe dementia which kept him house bound with his live-in carer, Miranda. He died comfortably in his sleep at home opposite St Mary's Church. He absolutely loved both Frensham and Dockenfield churches and was heart-broken when he had to completely retire due to heart problems. He then moved to Godalming, but returned to live in Frensham after his wife Janet died.

Colin's funeral service was held on Friday 6 May in St Mary's church and he was buried in the graveyard, joining Janet who had been laid to rest there in 2011. His service was one of great joy recapping his life as a priest and broadcaster with the BBC, his time as Provost Dean of Coventry Cathedral, as Canon Steward and Treasurer at Westminster Abbey for 10 years, and then working for the Diocese of Europe wherein he travelled greatly to Florence, Paris and Lugano, before finally coming to Frensham.

Colin was such a compassionate and thankful man who loved being with people and hearing about their lives. I called him my 'church dad' because he was always so loving towards me and my family. He was such a good preacher and both his voice and his personality conveyed the Good News he believed in so passionately.



**Good News:** What a difference the new chairs at the church of the Good Shepherd make. They are so much lighter in weight and have that 'arts and crafts' look, very much matching the wonderful stone work inside the church. I and the PCC are very grateful that Dockenfield Parish Council paid for 20 of the chairs which means we can comfortably seat 60, covering most functions.

Please do come to the services and other meetings to see for yourself. I also give huge thanks to all who gave generously so that we could complete this project, which will be beneficial for the whole community for the future.

**WIFI at the Church of the Good Shepherd:** We now have a CollecTin card reader for collections and donations for the church. However, we have had some glitches with it and it's not quite working properly yet. We are on the case!

**Exploring Christianity talks:** Starting last Sunday we had the first of our talks designed to interest, inform and inspire those whose faith in God is based on a range of stimuli – from scripture, religious paintings, poetry, music, architecture, science and our amazing world, also learning about extraordinary men and women whose achievements were driven by faith. These talks will take place on the third Sunday of every month. Full details can be found on page 14 and all are very welcome – refreshments provided.

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**Organ recitals:** These take place on the third Tuesday of every month at St Mary's Church at 1pm. Soup and rolls from 12 midday in the church hall. Free admission but retiring collection for fees and general care of organ. Full details on page 10.

**Renewables Event:** Saturday 21 May at The Mill, Frensham, 10am – 1pm. Looking after the environment and our churches. All proceeds will go to Friends of Frensham Churches who help to keep our churches and their contents in good order. ISO energy will be present to give information and advice on renewable energy systems. Please RSVP to rogerholmes@mac.com if you would like to come. See also page 2.

**'The Gordian Knot':** This wonderful 'murder mystery play' will be performed at the Good Shepherd from 15-18 June. Do please come along. Full details and how to buy tickets are on page 2.

**'The Art and Craft of our Parish':** Please reserve 21-23 October in your diaries for this much anticipated show at the Good Shepherd. Details on page 20.

Hope you all keep well and have a glorious summer!

With love and prayers, **Jane**

## Discover the Foundation of Western Civilisation

St Mary's Church is delighted to announce the launch of 'Christianity Explored,' a brand-new series of talks to inspire those who wish to learn about the foundation of western civilisation. Topics will range from sacred texts, religious paintings, poetry, music, architecture, science, and our amazing world, to the extraordinary men and women whose lives, work and courage have shaped our culture and influenced our thinking.

Roy Waight, local historian, will deliver a range of talks including one on Florence Nightingale, philanthropist, and founder of modern nursing. She is mostly remembered as 'The Lady with the Lamp' for her legendary night-time nursing of injured soldiers during the Crimean war. She is less well known for being a first-class statistician and pioneer of data visualisation and infographics. Hear Roy describe her life, her brilliance, and how millions of people have benefitted from her principles of healthcare.

Roy will also deliver a talk on the epic achievement of William Tyndale, a 16<sup>th</sup> century genius linguist and biblical scholar. Tyndale produced the Tyndale Bible – the first biblical translation of Hebrew and Greek texts into English. It had a profound effect on public literacy, gave people access to scripture, and effectively delivered the Elizabethan English template for William Shakespeare to craft.

Richard Walker, churchwarden, will deliver a range of talks including one on the life and legacy of William Wilberforce, evangelical Christian, charismatic speaker and politician who, despite suffering ill health and numerous political challenges, drove a relentless and highly successful political campaign for the abolition of slavery. Hear about Wilberforce's life - his friends and foes - his challenges and motivations.

Talks are delivered at 6 pm in St Mary's Church Hall on the third Sunday of every month, last 30 minutes, are accompanied by slides and followed by enjoyable discussion over wine and canapés.

To learn more about the series, pick up a Christianity Explored brochure at the back of St Mary's or call Richard on 07838 101 808. The next four-month schedule comprises:

J.S. Bach	19 June	by Roy Waight - organ played by Mike Smith
Elizabeth Fry	21 Aug	by Richard Walker
Florence Nightingale	17 July	by Roy Waight
William Tyndale	18 Sep	by Roy Waight
William Wilberforce	23 Oct	by Richard Walker

**Richard Walker**

## Tea @ Three

We have continued to meet-up and enjoy tea and a chat at our monthly Tea @ Three afternoons held at St Mary's Church Hall. In June we will see many communities across our land celebrating the Queen's Jubilee. Dockenfield has a Jubilee themed D-Day planned to take place on Saturday 4th of June. It seemed appropriate to extend the celebrations to include a Special Jubilee Tea @ Three on **Monday 6 June**.

Just a reminder of future 2022 dates: 6 June, 4 July, 1 August, 5 September, 3 October, 7 November, 5 December. We offer a very warm welcome to all, please do join us if you can. Wheelchair access is available. Once again, a Big 'Thank You' to our many regular supporters who come along and help serve Tea @ Three on the day.

**Sandy Taylor (Tel: 01420 478278)**

## Letters to the Editor

### Oh, to be in Dockenfield!

I would live in Dockenfield just for the Newsletter; it's so interesting.

**Mel Cracknell (Farnham Foodbank)**

### Thank you for the stamps

*Jack and Marjorie Bessant have received this letter from the lady to whom they give them and who sells them for charity.*

'Thank you, residents of Dockenfield and surrounding areas for the huge collection of used postage stamps I received from Marjorie and Jack Bessant. I have delivered them to the RSPCA. They were thrilled to have such a very large carrier bag full of used stamps, which will be sorted and sold for much needed funds to help animals who need help. Thank you all so very much again.

**Margaret Mullery**

*Please keep your contributions of used stamps coming to Jack and Marjory at 1 Beales Cottages, The Street Dockenfield, GU10 4JH*

## Comings...

A warm welcome to Dockenfield to:

- Yohan and Jane Samarasinghe, twins  
Louis and Helena (at university) and not forgetting Freda the cat, who moved into Quakers End in The Street in February

## ...goings...

- None that I have been told about for this edition

*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*

## Ian Dormor

On 27 March, John Wilkins emailed to say 'Heard today that Ian Dormor who lived in Pear Tree Cottage, Green Lane and was a partner in a printing business in Farnham until the early 80's before moving up to Church Stretton in Shropshire died recently after a short illness. There may be some people who remember him.'

The company Ian was director of was Arrow Press, incorporating Express Typesetters. By co-incidence we used Express to typeset the very first magazine we published as a newly formed company, and I am still in touch with a couple of Ian's colleagues there, and one, Michael Skinner of Basingstoke, messaged me to say: 'Ian and two partners started Express typesetters in Guildford and I was their first employee. Over time Arrow Press became part of the company and eventually became the dominant part. Ian left about 20 odd years ago and ended up in Church Stretton. He was a very good employer and an even better friend who I will miss greatly.'

## Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity has moved

### Open Evening, 6pm Wednesday, 29 June at our new premises

It is with great sadness that I must announce that Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity has moved from our premises in Arkell Lane, after 50 years of happy occupation. We have moved to **24 West Street, Farnham, GU9 7DR**. We will be holding an Open Evening at 6pm on Wednesday 29 June, and we'd love to see you there. Just drop me a line at [andyc@helenarkell.org.uk](mailto:andyc@helenarkell.org.uk) and I'll make a note for catering purposes. In the meantime, by all means do pop in and see us if you are in Farnham.

Thank you for all your messages of support, and special mention of Frensham Village Fayre for your generous donation towards our removal costs. Thank you! I have dropped a full letter of explanation through the doors of our immediate neighbours. If you would like a copy, please email me at [andyc@helenarkell.org.uk](mailto:andyc@helenarkell.org.uk)

We've loved being here and feeling part of the village. Likewise, all the children who come to us for life-changing support (over 1,000 of them every year) have loved the peace and tranquillity of our surroundings.

In a nutshell, our lease had come to an end and we exhausted all other options of staying on site, for reasons of financial affordability. I should make you aware that the charity has never faced such challenging financial times, with activity yet to return to pre-Covid levels, and reserves severely depleted over the last 2 disrupted years.

Although finances are worryingly tight, we will do our best to keep increasing our work, so we continue to help more people with dyslexia. If you know of anyone in the village who might be able to support us, either with a donation large or small, or as some sort of "Angel Investor" to help give us some security and peace of mind while we get back on our feet following Covid, I would really love to hear from you, on the email above.

**Andy Cook, Chief Executive, Helen Arkell Dyslexia Charity**

## **Frensham and Dockenfield Horticultural Society**

I mentioned in our last article that Dan Bosence was to talk on **'Vegetable growing throughout the year'** at our February meeting. It turned out to be the best attended members evening for many years. An attendance of 48 visited The Good Shepherd to hear Dan's words of wisdom, we also had a number of new members joining the society as a result. More are always welcome.

### **Spring Show 2022**

On Saturday 26 March we were able to welcome back our first Spring Show since 2019 with a creditable 211 entries, from 31 entrants.

We were fortunate that Squires Garden Centres sponsored this year's show, and we were pleased to welcome Sarah Squires, Chairman of the family-owned Squires Garden Centres, who kindly agreed to present the trophies. We would like to congratulate all the winners, who included Dan Bosence who was awarded The Captain Darling Cup for the exhibit of the highest merit in the entire show; Penny Hearn, who was awarded the Mrs Barnes Cup for the highest points in Home Industries ; Katie Smith awarded the Mrs Wood Cup for the best exhibit in classes 19 and 20- shrubs; Jilly Steventon, The Frensham Spring Cup, judged the best exhibit in classes 5-9, daffodils; and Annabel Sommerfelt the Huitfeldt Cup awarded for the best Floral Arrangement.

Many thanks to the judges, Kate Shipton (Home industries), Elizabeth Barralet (Floral Arrangements), Annabel Chaplin (Flowers & Vegetables) and Simon Claiden (Photography).

### **'Surrey Heathlands, and its flora and fauna and wildlife'**

On **26 May** at 7.30pm, we welcome Adam Bolton, of Surrey Wildlife Trust to the Marindin Hall. Adam is responsible for managing the Trusts objectives on most of West Surrey's heathlands and to ensure that the special diversity that exists in these areas continue to flourish and support, the rare birds, reptiles, wildflowers, fauna, and insects that are unique to those habitats.

### **Society Events**

Although our regular member meetings are off the radar until September, we do have a number of activities planned.

### **Dockenfield Day**

On 4 June, Dan Bosence will be holding a plant sale at Dockenfield Day, from 2-6 pm. Although Dan grows most of the stock sold for the stall, he is also looking for plant donations for stall. If you have any please contact Dan (dwjbosence@btinternet.com) or Pam Hibbert (phibbert@hotmail.co.uk). There will be a full range of perennials, bedding plants and vegetable and fruit plants for sale.

### **Rose Show at the Frensham Fayre**

On **18 June**, we will hold our traditional Plant Stall and we will also be holding the first summer Rose Show for many years, in the marquee. There will be a number of classes including an open class for non-members. Classes are likely to include: Best scented rose, best rose bud and most unusual rose. Please check the Frensham Fayre website for further information. [www.frenshamfayre.co.uk](http://www.frenshamfayre.co.uk).

### **Garden Visits**

Subject to sufficient member interest we will be visiting both Down Place and Sandhill Farm House, both near Petersfield on **22 June**. We will also be holding Tea Parties, hosted by members during May and June. Members will receive an email.

If you are a non-member and interested in how to join the society, please contact Jilly Steventon (membership@fdhs.org.uk)

**Neil Mumford (www.fdhs.org.uk)**

## **The power of the small ad....**

This came to me, as so many things do these days, via the internet, so I can't tell you absolutely that it is true. But it made me smile and I hope it will you too. It concerns a small ad that appeared in the 'Atlanta Journal' which evidently ran as follows:

*'Single black female seeks male companionship. Ethnicity not important. I am a very good-looking girl that loves to play. I love long walks in the woods; riding in your pickup truck; hunting, camping and fishing trips; cosy winter nights lying in front of the fire. When you get home from work, I'll be at the front door wearing only what nature gave me. Call (404) 555 1212 and ask for Daisy'*

And over 1,500 men found themselves talking to the Atlanta Humane Society about an 8-week-old black Labrador retriever.

## Hold the front page!

A friend has sent me some rather fine newspaper headlines that I want to share with you. There are a few other really good ones that I've had to leave out because sadly they aren't fit for inclusion in a family newsletter.

- Marijuana issue sent to a joint committee
- Study shows frequent sex enhances pregnancy chances
- Bugs flying around with wings are flying bugs
- Statistics show that teen pregnancy drops off significantly after age 25
- Starvation can lead to health hazards
- City unsure why the sewer smells
- Bridges help people cross rivers
- Homicide victims rarely talk to the police
- Diana was still alive hours before she died



**This fabulous picture of 'Cow 701495' was taken in Frensham by Simon Claiden. Simon will be exhibiting his photographs at the 'Art and Craft of our Parish' show in October. See page 20**

## Thought for the day

Humanity must shift from living 'on' the planet to living with her.

## Pilates at the Good Shepherd

Pilates classes take place at the Good Shepherd, with two classes every Monday. The times are midday-1pm and 7-8pm. Please don't just turn up as they are very popular, but contact the tutor Christine Jason for information (Tel: 07896 293203).

## Dockenfield Business Directory

The business directory is a list of residents of Dockenfield who own and run their own business; it is a slightly abridged version of the list which appears on the Dockenfield Parish Council website ([www.dockenfieldpc.org.uk](http://www.dockenfieldpc.org.uk)); for updates please contact **Paul Wood** at [dockenfieldchairman@hotmail.com](mailto:dockenfieldchairman@hotmail.com)

All businesses, large or small, full or part time are invited to participate. There is no charge for these entries as the Parish Council is keen to support businesses that are owned and run by village residents. The only criteria for entry is that you *must* live in a house that receives a hard copy of DNL delivered through the door: so please when submitting entries always remember to give you full home address although this will not be published.

Business Name	Services Offered	Contact	Tel/email/website
<b>Acorn Office Supplies</b>	Delivery of all your office supplies: hygiene, toner/ink cartridges and so much more direct to your door (no carriage charge and no minimum order) throughout Surrey and Hampshire.	Janet Martin	01420 520550 <a href="mailto:sales@acornofficesupplies.co.uk">sales@acornofficesupplies.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.acornofficesupplies.co.uk">www.acornofficesupplies.co.uk</a>
<b>J C Aldred Services</b>	Groundworks, drainage and hard landscape	Dan Aldred	07808 781794 <a href="mailto:johnaldred@btconnect.com">johnaldred@btconnect.com</a>
<b>Alison Ellen Knitwear</b>	Short courses and books on designing knitwear; custom made knitwear. Opens to public with Surrey Artists Open Studios. <a href="https://surreyopenstudios.org.uk">https://surreyopenstudios.org.uk</a>	Alison Ellen	01252 792442 / 07896 124418 <a href="mailto:alison@alisonellenhandknits.co.uk">alison@alisonellenhandknits.co.uk</a> <a href="http://www.alisonellenhandknits.co.uk">www.alisonellenhandknits.co.uk</a>
<b>Bluebell Pub</b>	The only public house in Dockenfield, serving home-cooked food, fine wines and real ales	Lucy and Robin Catchpole	01252 792801 <a href="mailto:bluebelldockenfield@icloud.com">bluebelldockenfield@icloud.com</a> <a href="http://www.bluebell-dockenfield.com">www.bluebell-dockenfield.com</a>
<b>Brown Fox Consultancy Ltd</b>	We coach leadership teams to maximise their full potential and performance and also individuals around business development	Sebastian Fox	07930 986677 <a href="mailto:sebastian@brownfoxconsultancy.com">sebastian@brownfoxconsultancy.com</a> <a href="http://www.brownfoxconsultancy.com">www.brownfoxconsultancy.com</a>
<b>Bushbaby Travel Ltd</b>	Bespoke holidays and adventures around the world including safaris, road trips, cruises and beach flops! Tour operator only dealing direct with clients to enable us to offer the best prices	Abigail and James Shaw	01252 792984 <a href="mailto:info@bushbaby.travel">info@bushbaby.travel</a> <a href="https://bushbaby.travel">https://bushbaby.travel</a>

<b>Business Name</b>	<b>Services Offered</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Tel/email/website</b>
<b>Charterlith</b>	Artwork, design, printing, copying, presentations, dissertations, business & personal stationery, posters, plan copying and printing	Adrian Wilkins/John Wilkins	01252 614406 theprinters@charterlith.co.uk www.charterlith.co.uk
<b>Hames Homes Maintenance</b>	A family-run business specialising in handyman and home improvement services for local households and businesses across Surrey and Hampshire	Phil Hames	07885 263077 enquiries@hameshm.com www.hameshm.com
<b>Hannah Poulson</b>	Soloist available for event singing; any occasion. Also singing lessons.	Hannah Poulson	07776 332209 hannahpoulson@hotmail.co.uk www.hannahpoulson.com
<b>In a Scent Aromatherapy</b>	Aromatherapy and deep tissue massage and consultation; crystal therapy; and reiki (master teacher)	Amanda Adolph	01252 795909 / 07867 808918 amandaadolph@gmail.com
<b>Jean Heathcote</b>	Painter in oils, landscapes, local scenes and seascapes. Open Studio in June every year	Jean Heathcote	01252 793251
<b>Learn Guitar Farnham</b>	Guitar Teacher for all ages and styles. Lessons via Zoom also offered	Mark Gardiner	01252 794088 59bassman@tiscali.co.uk https://rockriffs.jimdofree.com
<b>Mawgans</b>	Luxury scented pure plant based wax candles, reed diffusers and refill candles. Sustainable, vegan, hand poured in Dockenfield. All in beautiful recycled packaging.	Sarah Watson	07815 936641 hello@mawgans.com www.mawgans.com Instagram: @mawgans
<b>Milestones Clinic Ltd</b>	We provide a specialist community neuro-rehabilitation service for people following a: brain injury; spinal cord injury; stroke and for those who have a neurological disease such as MS and Parkinson's Disease	Sally de la Fontaine	07711 936952 sally@milestonesclinic.co.uk www.milestonesclinic.co.uk
<b>Nicola Godden Sculpture</b>	Sculpture in bronze for gardens and interiors	Nicola Godden BA MRBS	01252 795547 nicolagodden@aol.com www.nicolagodden.com
<b>Penny Heath</b>	Suzuki cello teacher. An incredibly successful and stimulating method of teaching small children	Penny Heath	01252 795358 / 07891 710652 pennyheath5@gmail.com
<b>Pilates Training Solutions Ltd</b>	Training providers level 3 Pilates qualification, level 4 low back pain management, Pilates matwork classes, one to one equipment and rehabilitation sessions.	Belinda Buttery	01252 719429 / 07734 426757 belindajbuttery@hotmail.com www.pilatestrainingsolutions.co.uk
<b>Pure Imagination Jewellers</b>	Bespoke jewellery; commissions; repairs; cleaning and gemology	Ben Poulson	07789 798463 benpoulson@hotmail.co.uk www.pureimaginationjewellers.com
<b>Roak Ltd</b>	We are a quality very highly regarded builder skilled in refurbishment, new-build and extensions.	David Epps	01252 820328 / 07768 510055 david@roak.co.uk www.roak.co.uk
<b>Ronnie Bennett Photographer</b>	Professional photographer specialising in portraiture, particularly in black & white, winning over 40 awards from professional photographic organisations with many pictures published. Also specialise in creating Family Lifestyle Books including family portraits, pets, homes, gardens, & cars in one personal volume.	(Mrs) Ronnie Bennett	01252 794258 ronnie@ronniebennett.com
<b>Shooting Simulator</b>	For all abilities. A camera-based system to use on your gun or on our dummy gun. This system provides gun movement and shot analysis for a rapid learning experience. Disciplines offered: Shotgun and Rifle	Katy Poulson	07703 519488 katy.poulsonplant@gmail.com www.shooting-simulator.co.uk
<b>Strawberry Signs Ltd</b>	Signwriter offering banners, vehicle graphics, pavement and shop signage, logos and much more	Paul Edwards	01252 319474 / 07824 439344 info@strawberrysigns.com www.strawberrysigns.com
<b>Tim Lediard</b>	Interior and exterior painting, pressure washing, hedge cutting and grass cutting, carpet and upholstery cleaning	Tim Lediard	01420 472285 / 07900 895667 tlediard@aol.com
<b>UCAN Training Ltd</b>	Offering online and in-person coaching and training development skills to take your career to the next level.	Sharon Jackson	01252 792811 / 07887 767705 sharon@ucantraining.com www.ucantraining.com



## Holly Bush to Ukraine

David Edwards, Etienne and I would like to say a huge thank you to all those who supported us on our drive to the Polish/Ukrainian border. We set up a Go Fund Me page as we thought we may get a few donations to help towards the cost of Lorry hire, petrol and ferry crossings. The generous donations, that kept us going on the drive, reached over £11,500 by our return. This was massively helped by the team at the Holly Bush bringing our trip to the attention of customers. The money was given to The Disasters and Emergencies Commission (the official charity).

For those that didn't hear of our trip, the war in Ukraine was in its infancy but the Polish volunteers at the Polish/Ukraine border were in desperate need of medical supplies, medicines, toiletries, nappies and sanitary products. The Lewisham Polish Centre had collected what they needed, but then it needed to get the supplies to Poland. That's where we came in.

We hired a lorry and left Frensham early am and were loaded in Lewisham by an amazing army of volunteers. By 11pm that night we reached Germany for our first stop. By the second night we had reached Warsaw. At both hotel stops we were aware of Ukrainian mums travelling with children and grandmas.

We reached our drop point the next morning in the town of Bialystok where we met an amazing group of volunteers who were taking care of Ukrainian refugees at the border. Hypothermia in children was a real problem having lived without heat and then a long journey through Ukraine. The centre in Bialystok also looked after the 4,000 refugees who had already settled in the town. Even the yellow buses you saw on the news being shot at were driven by volunteers from this town. The centre was supplying and managing only 1 of 4 border crossings, with only 1.5 million refugees at this point. We could see the enormity of the task; it's over 10 million now. It was apparent that the main Aid Agencies were not up to speed yet.

On the drive home every car with Ukrainian number plates that passed us were full of suitcases, women and children and every motorway stop (and there were many) all the way to Belgium we saw the same sight. Women, children and grandmothers, but still no men, not of any age. In all it was a 2,300 mile round trip. More info and pictures on our Instagram@hollybushfrensham, see the Ukraine link above the pictures.

The team at The Holly Bush are going to try and continue to help. We are looking at setting up an 'Help out to Eat Out' scheme where donations can be made to pay for Ukrainian guests' meals. The staff will also be giving up a percentage of tips for the fund. This is work in progress.

Lastly Aidan, our eldest son, has said that he is happy to help any Ukrainian arrivals with translation and form filling if required. Because of Aidan's language skills we have been able to employ a Ukrainian lady who has just arrived in Farnham.

**David and Sally Lee, The Holly Bush**

*The picture shows the Holly Bush Team with their cargo at the drop off point, a children's centre in Bialystok. The logo is a heart with the words 'Podlascy Aniolowie'. Podlascy is the region, and Aniolowie means angels.*

## Welcome to Dockenfield, our Ukrainian friends

The very warmest of Dockenfield welcomes to Yulia and her children Sasha and Klym, who come from Kyiv. Yulia is a jeweller whilst Sasha loves art and Klym enjoys photography and computer games. We are very happy that you are joining us in our village. The children's father, Slava, sadly cannot be with them as he remains in Kyiv.

## Cherubs Toddler Group

**Thursday mornings 9.30-11.30am, at the Good Shepherd**

Takes place every Thursday morning 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.

## Wouldn't you just know it?

The weather was so foul in late February/early March that there was no point in washing our cars. Then the sun came out and we shone them up something lovely. Cue a Saharan sandstorm on 16 March which covered everything in a light yellow dust. Back to the drawing board with the cars then.....



## The 'Art and Craft of our Parish'

**Friday, Saturday and Sunday 21-23 October at the Good Shepherd**

Please reserve these dates in your diaries. In what promises to be a wonderful show, artists and craftsmen/women of our parish will be showcasing their work at a special show at the Good Shepherd, itself an 'Art and Crafts' church. There is a wealth of often hidden talent amongst us and the idea is to gather as much of it as possible under one roof for the enjoyment of everyone, local and otherwise.

The show will be launched on Friday 21 October with a 'Gala Evening' and then be open throughout Saturday and Sunday from 10am-4pm. There will be art, photography, sculpture, knitting, mosaics, weaving, candles and much more besides so do come and appreciate it all. Full details will be published in upcoming DNLs and Parish Magazines.

*The photographs show three examples of the kind of wonderful art and craft that will be on display at the Show. From left: A 'Tumbling Blocks' jacket in autumn colours by Alison Ellen. Centre: 'Owl Watch' an acrylic painting on hand-made paper by Lynne Thomas. Right: Two Echo Weave wraps woven from bamboo yarn using 8 shafts, by Jill Billings.*

## Frensham Celebrates the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

**Sunday 5 June, 12-6pm**

Come to Shortfield Common and celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with your friends and neighbours. Bring your tables, chairs, blankets together with your picnic and drinks. Enjoy an afternoon full of fun and music. Guest appearances are expected!



## Victims of the Storm

Two of the many sizeable oaks that came down in the recent storms. The left picture shows a tree that split down the middle and had to be completely felled, in Bealeswood Lane. The other shows a fallen oak blocking a driveway in Sandy Lane.

**Pictures by Debbie Foster and Jo Whitby**

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