

DNL Dockenfield newsletter

News and events from in and around the village of Dockenfield

Issue 291

Published 11 October 2022



A rare Dartford Warbler photographed by Alex Potts on Frensham Common. 'Waiting to Pounce', a pastel painting by Michael Foster. Just two of the many exhibits that can be seen at the Art and Craft Exhibition

The 'Art and Craft of our Parish'

Saturday and Sunday, 22-23 October, 10am-4pm daily, at the Church of the Good Shepherd

I am rather hoping that all of you will find a moment to come along and support this exhibition. You will be amazed just how much artistic and craft-making talent there is, often hidden from view, actually within our Parish boundaries. Now, for the first time it is there for you to explore in a special showcase of their work, assembled under one roof. Better yet, the roof in question is that of our very own Good Shepherd, itself a fine example of an 'Arts and Craft' building.

The exhibition also sees the launch of 'Nature's Seasons', the very first Dockenfield and Frensham 'Wildlife Calendar', with 13 stunning close-up pictures of local wildlife all captured by the cameras of Alex Potts and Alan Cox. I believe it is going to be a hugely enjoyable show, fundraising for a very important cause, so hope to see you there. Full details on page 2.

Michael

Dockenfield Skittles Night

Friday, 4 November at the Jolly Farmer, Blacknest. Bowling starts at 7pm

This is the last call for Skittles Night on Friday, 4 November. Please come and join in this wonderful village event, now happily returned after its enforced Covid absence. There are limited spaces, so book quickly as it's on a first come first served basis and is open to all ages.

Please contact me to book, or complete the form on page 20. When filling out the form and paying, please also select your menu choices. Many thanks and very much looking forward to seeing you. **Katy Poulson email: Katy.poulsonplant@gmail.com or tel: 07703 519488.**

Remembrance Sunday, 13 November and Poppy Appeal 2022

Please make a diary note of these important events. Full details on page 3.

The 'Art and Craft of our Parish'

**Saturday and Sunday, 22-23 October, 10am-4pm daily,
at the Church of the Good Shepherd**

Accompanying this edition of DNL, you will find a leaflet telling you about this exhibition which is an exciting new venture for our parish. All the artists and craft makers showcasing their work live within the parish boundary, so their work is truly local. The list (in alphabetical order) is:

Ronnie Bennett: Photography

Jill Billings: Weaving

Joanna Bridges-Webb: Paintings

Simon Claiden: Photography

Alan Cox: Wildlife photography

Alison Ellen: Knitwear

Michael Foster: Pastel paintings and cards

Nicola Godden: Sculpture

Claire Jackson: Drawings and paintings

Morag James: Needlework

Fiona Kadri: Paintings and drawings

Ziad Kadri: Ceramics

Vicki Kennish: Pyrography

Alex Potts: Wildlife photography

Laura Ramsay: Mosaics

Helena Samarasinghe: Paintings

Lynne Thomas: Paintings, prints and cards

Anne Tutt: Flower arrangements

Sarah Watson: Mawgan's candles

That's a total of 19 exhibitors across a range of 11 different artistic and craft disciplines, so there is something to intrigue everyone.

There will be demonstrations and explanations, a raffle and of course lots to see. Refreshments include home-made cakes, tea, coffee and soup with a roll. There is absolutely no obligation to buy, but with maybe Christmas in mind, there's an opportunity to purchase genuinely local arts, crafts and cards from as little as £2.50.

There will also be a celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Pauline Baynes, world famous for her illustrations for CS Lewis, JRR Tolkien and many others. I wonder how many of you know that all her fantastic drawings were created right here, in her cottage in Dockenfield where she lived and worked for 40 years. See also page 11.

Admission is free, although since this is a fundraiser, donations are warmly welcome. All profits go to the upkeep of the Good Shepherd and St Mary's.

Friday Night Gala Preview (21 October, 7.30-10pm). Tickets for this sold out almost as soon as they went on sale. Not surprising when you think about it, as there's a welcome drink, musical entertainment, canapes and a first look at the exhibits. With people booking late holidays however it's worth checking if there are any returns. Visit <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/frensham-pcc>

Pictures from top: Orange ribbed waistcoat (hand-knitted in hand-dyed wool) by Alison Ellen; 'Duma' (cheetah in Swahili) an acrylic on canvas by Lynne Thomas; and a scarf woven by Jill Billings



Poppy Appeal 2022

The Royal British Legion has confirmed that we are allowed to have a normal Poppy Appeal this year and so our collection period will run from 29 October to 13 November. Our team of dedicated collectors will be visiting houses in Dockenfield and Frensham 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.

Dockenfield villagers have always shown very generous support for the Poppy Appeal in the past and we hope that you will feel able to fully support the Appeal again this year.

Remembrance Sunday 13 November

We plan to have our usual four Remembrance Sunday services this year with changes as necessitated by Health & Safety regulations. The Royal British Legion is now forbidden from taking any responsibility for traffic management as a result of a multi-million-pound insurance claim. This means that we need to adjust our Services and, subject to the appropriate permissions being granted, the plans are as follows:

10.15 am: Frensham Memorial Service. If we receive permission from Waverley Borough Council (WBC) we will remain on the Green by St Mary's School and will NOT cross the A287 to the Memorial. All attendees do so at their own risk. There will be NO parade from the Green to the Church. Anyone who walks from the Green to the Church does so at their own risk. There will be NO traffic marshals. Wreaths for this Memorial Service will be laid in the Church Service and subsequently placed at the Frensham Memorial.

10.50 am: Remembrance Service, St Mary's Church, Frensham. Wreaths that in the past had been laid at the Frensham Memorial Service will from now on be laid at this Church Service.

12.30 pm: Dockenfield Memorial Service. Subject to Dockenfield Parish Council being granted a Temporary Traffic Management Order we will hold this service as usual in The Street by the Memorial.

1 pm: Royal British Legion Club Memorial Service – as usual followed by lunch in the club.

Peter James, Local Poppy Appeal Organiser

Dockenfield pre-Xmas Village Party

Saturday 3 December, 6.30-10pm at the Good Shepherd

We had such lovely comments after last year's party, and with everything that has gone on around the world this year, the Activities Committee wanted to get the village together again just before Xmas where we will have:

- Complimentary Hog Roast
- Pay bar
- Residents of all ages, both adults and children, are warmly welcome

RSVP

Dockenfield.Activities@gmail.com stating number of guests and meat/veg preference. The closing date for responding is 27 November.

Just for clarity, this event has been organised to give something back to the village and to give us all something to cheer about. A chance to raise a glass and to enjoy a relaxed collective evening as we approach the festive season. It's a party for ALL so please don't assume it's only for families and children! It's a free event and the food is complimentary!

So, drop us an email and confirm your attendance, even if just for an hour or so. Support your village and meet up with your neighbours and friends. Such events can only work when we get people volunteering to help us setup then clear up at the end. Please can you let us know in your email which of these you can assist with.

Other Xmas events you won't want to miss

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

Monday 13 December: Village Carol Service, 6.45pm

More details on these and the pre-Xmas Party in the next DNL.

The Geological Evolution and Landscape south of Farnham

A talk by Dan Bosence on Thursday 10 November 7-8pm, at the Tilford Institute

Dan will explore the origin of the sands and clays that form the landscape south of Farnham. These strata formed when seas covered South-East England at a time when dinosaurs roamed the land. This area was later affected by Alpine earth movements, forming Surrey's answer to the Alps; the Hog's Back. This new land was then eroded by rivers into hills and valleys to form our present-day landscape. The rivers Wey and Blackwater gradually eroded out the valleys leaving behind gravelly river terraces and, extraordinarily, the River Wey near Tilford changed its direction of flow.

Admission is free but you are asked to register at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-geological-evolution-and-landscape-south-of-farnham-tickets-408661867647>

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, but please advise the Clerk beforehand. The agenda can be found on the Parish Council website a week before the meeting. www.dockenfieldpc.org.uk. Alternatively, if you have any questions you would like to be discussed at the meeting, please contact the clerk at dockenfieldclerk@hotmail.co.uk

Future Parish Council Meeting Dates

Tuesdays **18 October and 15 November**, 8pm at The Church of the Good Shepherd



Telephone Box

We hope that you have noticed the smart newly refurbished telephone box on the corner of The Street and Abbots Cottages complete with customised “Dockenfield” and “Defibrillator” signs. The position of the telephone box has been moved slightly to make it a more prominent feature, close to the village sign, and to move it from under the oak tree, where damp and bird droppings did not help the condition of the old telephone box. As before, the telephone box contains one of the village defibrillators (the other is at the Bluebell pub). Many thanks to Billy Blowers who helped with the final installation.

Left: Out with the old, in with the new

Road Safety

As reported in the last DNL a speed survey has now been conducted by Surrey CC Highways. In the measurement period from 11 to 25 August a total (both directions) of 30,124 vehicles were recorded in The Street. The average speed recorded was 30 mph but worryingly 15% of all vehicles (4,518 vehicles) were travelling at 36mph or greater and the maximum speed recorded was 62mph. This is both unlawful and dangerous.

We had asked Surrey CC Highways for a 20mph speed limit on The Street through the village. Unfortunately, Surrey CC policy is, for a 20mph speed limit to be applied, the current average speed should be 24mph or lower, which is not the case from the speed survey data. Hence Surrey CC Highways will not lower the speed limit to 20mph. We will continue to discuss with Surrey CC Highways alternative ways to moderate the excessive speed above the 30mph speed limit that the speed survey data clearly shows.

Electric Vehicle Charging Point

The Parish Council had pursued the idea of a public twin charging point in the village (near to the bus shelter by the Church). It turned out to be surprisingly difficult to obtain quotes from electricians to do the work and when we finally did obtain a quote it was for nearly £10,000 (plus there would have been on-going annual costs for the card payment processing). We felt that this was just too much to pay for a facility that was likely to have relatively light usage and have taken the decision for now not to pursue further. We will reassess in the future.

DNL

We have not had any volunteers to take on the editorship of the DNL from the New Year. Michael Foster has done a fabulous job as editor over the last 17 years and deserves a very well-earned retirement as Editor.

I know that the DNL is valued by many in the village and we are very open to changing the format of the DNL, but we do need a volunteer Editor. For the benefit of the community please do consider whether you are able to help. See also pages 5 and 13.

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

Cherubs Toddler Group

Takes place at the Good Shepherd 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.

Frensham and Dockenfield History Group

The Autumn/Winter meetings got underway on 13 September when Alan Copeland delivered another of his interesting talks. This time round 'Curiosities of The Chilterns' was his chosen subject.

On Tuesday, **11 October** Alan Turton will deliver his talk and picture show, 'The Social Life of an English Civil War Soldier'. Some years ago, Alan gave an extremely interesting talk on The Mary Rose; let's hope this one will be equally as good!

John Owen Smith will be the speaker at the meeting on **8 November** and his subject is 'Flora Thompson'.

The Christmas Party at the Frensham RBL Hall will take place on Tuesday, **6 December**. Further details and ticket price will be available at the October meeting.

Chris Bonner

Halloween and Bonfire Night

Halloween and Bonfire Night are fast approaching, and many of us will want to celebrate these ancient traditions. But if you do so, please remember to respect the privacy and well-being of your neighbours and their pets. If you wish to celebrate Bonfire Night at an organised Firework Display then the nearest one I am aware of is in Rowledge, details below.

Rowledge Fireworks, Friday 4 November at Rowledge Recreation Ground

Rowledge Residents Association have sent DNL this message:

Please join us for an amazing family friendly fireworks event run by the Friends of Rowledge School on Friday 4 November at the Rowledge Recreation Ground.

There is limited capacity so don't miss out. (Our capacity is based on our volunteering numbers, licensing and ensuring the safety and enjoyment of all those in attendance).

So don't delay in booking your tickets and spreading the word with your family, friends and neighbours. For all the details and to book, please go to:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/friendsofrowledgeschool/761617/>

So far, no good

The Parish Council and myself had been rather hoping that by now somebody might have stepped forward to take on the mantle of Editor of DNL from the New Year, but so far there have been no takers. Lots of lovely words about DNL for sure, but nobody it seems prepared to pick up the baton and take it forward. It doesn't have to be in its current format, DPC is open to ideas as to how communication in the village might best be achieved, but some kind of reliable source of information (be it printed, electronic or a mix) would be of continuing benefit to the community.

It has been mentioned to me that maybe folk are expecting me to have a change of heart and carry on after all but trust me that isn't going to happen. 100 editions is a neat time at which to bow out, and in any case 17 years is surely enough of anybody's time.

So, if you feel you can contribute in any way, do get in touch with either myself or the Parish Council. All contributions, thoughts, and better still offers to help, enormously welcome.

'Nearly New' Tabletop Sale Saturday 26 November, 2pm to 5pm at Marindin Hall

Marindin Hall is planning a 'Nearly New' tabletop sale in aid of Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice. Hire a table and sell preloved items in good condition (as long as they fit on one of their tables) such as toys, books, china, ornaments and unwanted gifts. It's a great opportunity to make some extra cash for Christmas and buy Christmas gifts at reasonable prices.

The sale will be open from 2pm to 5 pm, with refreshments, a tombola and Phyllis Tuckwell will be selling their Christmas cards.

Tables cost £10 which we will donate to Phyllis Tuckwell, and whatever you make from selling your goods you keep. All they ask is a donation to the Tombola to help the Hospice raise even more.

To reserve your table, email marindinevents@gmail.com or call 07765 155474 for more details.

Can you 'blind taste' a raspberry?

I was brought up believing most raspberries were white. They were the kind that my parents grew in their garden, rather than the usual red variety. We still grow them at Farm Cottage, to the surprise of many who have never seen or tasted them.

We took some to a party last month, where four guests had never heard of them. So we conducted a 'blind tasting' to see if anybody could tell the difference by taste. The result? A 50/50 split. Which given you have a 50/50 chance of getting the answer correct anyway, doesn't prove very much. Other than to confirm that red and white raspberries taste pretty much the same.

Dockenfield Open Spaces Group

With record-breaking temperatures and lack of rain throughout the summer (see page 17), the plants and wildlife of our village fields and Common land have struggled. On Bealeswood Common this is reflected in the times of flowering of some of our common wildflowers. As we have been recording flowering dates over the last 13 years, we can compare this summer with the average from previous summers. For 10 chosen common species, the length of flowering this year was 6 weeks shorter, on average, than for the previous 10 years. The date when these flowers finished flowering this year was 5 weeks earlier, on average, than the last flowering date of the previous 10 years.

These records back up our perception of a tough year for our wildflowers and the fact that the Common looked brown from July onwards, rather than the usual purples and yellows from the knapweed, buttercups and vetches. As the flowers were over early and there was a perceived fire risk from the dried-up foliage, the Common was cut early this year. The cutting reduces the fertility of the soil (favouring flowers over grasses) and spreads the seeds that have already set. We anticipate that there will be a knock-on effect for the insect, bird and mammal populations in subsequent years. Butterfly populations in Surrey crashed in the year following the drought of 1976. However, they were relatively unaffected by the hot, dry summer in 2018.

An early cut was also carried out on Fritz's Field and this was in part required because of the number of invasive species we have in this site. Populations of bracken, giant horsetail and bramble have encroached into the grassland and these patches have been growing at the expense of wildflowers. Compared with neighbouring Bealeswood Common, with a similar cutting regime, Fritz's Field has a relatively low diversity of wildflowers, which we suspect is reflected in lower invertebrate (including insects) populations. Note we have no numbers here because no-one has come forward to do any recording on this site. If you feel you know some of the common wildflowers or butterflies, and would like to learn a few more, the Group would be delighted to hear from you. Please contact Dan Bosence (792442) or Jill Trout (794284) if you feel you can help.

The new village field next to the recreation ground has also been affected by the drought conditions. Our newly excavated pond all but dried up. We said it would be a temporary or ephemeral pond, and that is what it is, because it does not have a continuous flow of water to compensate for evaporation and leakage into the adjacent ditch. However, some of the marginal plants that were planted appear to have survived and the pond has been refilling in the recent rains. Many people have commented on the fact that this field supports a very vigorous growth of grass. This reduces the number of wildflowers, which is even less than in Fritz's Field. But also, in this dry year there was perceived to be a fire risk to adjacent properties, so the grass was cut down in late August (thank you, Roger Trout).

The boundary hedge that was planted in February has survived the drought remarkably well. A consequence of the generally heavy wet soil on this site plus the quality of the weed suppressing mat that the young plants were planted through. This area, and the adjacent hedgerows, woodland edges and Hatch Pond are proving to have a varied bird population, so remember to take your binoculars with you on your next visit and let us know if you see something unusual.

Dan Bosence on behalf of the Open Space Group

Bealeswood Butterflies for mid-July, August and September

July 8 – 14	34 x Meadow Brown, 11 x Gatekeeper, 1 x Marbled White, 1 x Peacock, 2 x Common Blue, 1 x Brown Argus, 1 x Small Skipper
July 15 – 21	37 x Meadow Brown, 8 x Gatekeeper, 3 x Ringlet, 3 x Common Blue, 2 x Small White, 2 x Large White, 1 x Large Skipper, 1 x Comma
July 22 - 28	16 x Meadow Brown, 11 x Gatekeeper, 1 x Ringlet, 1 x Large White, 1 x Green-veined White, 1 x Common Blue, 1 x Small/Essex Skipper, 1 x Speckled Wood
July 29 – August 4	21 x meadow brown, 10 x Gatekeeper, 7 x Common Blue, 2 x Large White, 2 x Small White
August 5 - 11	29 x meadow brown, 13 x Common Blue, 6 x large White, 3 x Speckled Wood, 1 x Small White, 1 x Clouded Yellow
August 19 - 25	5 x Meadow Brown, 2 x Speckled Wood, 1 x Large White

Butterfly numbers in July and August were generally down, although the Common Blues seem to have done well, but by the end of August and early September very few butterflies of any species were seen. With no rain for weeks, the grasses and flowers on the common dried up leaving both caterpillars and butterflies short of food, the effects of which will probably be seen in low butterfly numbers next year.

Alison Bosence, Philippa Hall, Claire Jackson, Anne Tutt

News from our Parish hostelries

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

After an amazing summer, it's very much feeling like autumn! We have moved to a more autumnal menu and Christmas plans are under way!

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 or by calling 01252 792801.

Ladies' Night

Great news. A pre-Christmas ladies' gathering has been organised at the Bluebell for Thursday, **24 November** at 8pm. It's lovely to see Ladies' Night back in the Dockenfield calendar. See page 15 for more details.

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 **13 October and 10 November**. See page 15 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!

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)

Open Mic Nights

These are informal evenings - anyone is welcome to come along and perform, or just turn up to listen. They are normally held on the fourth Tuesday each month, so the next two are scheduled for **25 October and 22 November at 8pm**.

Quizzes

Our ever-popular quiz nights have now restarted for the winter season – the next will be on Saturday **12 November** at 7.30 for 8pm, organised by Millbridge WI. Teams may be of up to six members, or if you don't have a team, come along anyway – there are sure to be some others you can join up with.

Harvest Home

The annual Harvest Home Auction to raise funds for the Poppy Appeal and the club will be on Saturday **15 October** – come at 7pm for viewing, before a 7.30pm start. Donations of anything in good condition and suitable for auctioning will be appreciated, eg traditional home-made items such as cakes, jams + preserves, wines + spirits, unwanted gifts, plants, etc. These can be brought to the club beforehand or on the day. This is always a fun evening, and all are welcome.

Remembrance Sunday

Sunday **13 November** 1pm: Why not come along to our service at the war memorial outside the club given by Rev Jane Walker and afterwards enjoy a two-course lunch in the Legion for just £6. No need to book – just turn up and pay at the door. There will also be a raffle, with profits from the lunch and raffle going to the Poppy Appeal.

Janet Caiger

For details of the Holly Bush, the Frensham Pond Hotel and Craft Brews please contact them direct:

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

The Frensham Pond Country House Hotel and Spa (Tel: 795171; www.frenshampondhotel.co.uk)

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

Cake doesn't constitute one of your '5 a day'

A friend is contemplating taking a piece of rather yummy looking cake from the breakfast buffet in a hotel. It's one redeeming feature (apart, that is, from looking mouth-wateringly delicious) is that it contains loads of blueberries. After much thought he decided that blueberries in a cake didn't constitute one of his '5 a day'. But he had it anyway.

Asked to appear before Surrey County Council

On Thursday, I have been asked to attend an interview with Surrey County Council to explain my actions over the past couple of years. The interview will be recorded on video, and I have agreed the council may use the recording as they wish. The topic of the interview is homelessness, and the purpose of the interview is to contribute towards Surrey County Council's understanding of how to care for rough sleepers.

In September's Parish Magazine, I wrote about my chance meeting with a young man (who, for the purpose of that piece and this, I call Jason) who had just been evicted from a Farnham homeless hostel. I met him between Christmas 2020 and the New Year at the height of the coronavirus lockdown whilst walking along The Borough late one afternoon. Jason was sitting on a sleeping bag in the doorway of the abandoned Botanist restaurant. The weather was damp, misty, and at minus 3, bitterly cold. Apart from the occasional person entering and leaving Boots pharmacy at the far end of The Borough - from where I had just come - the street was deserted.

I stopped to say hello, and we chatted. I am not sure why, but his situation affected me emotionally to an extent that I have never felt before. Perhaps it was his isolation. Perhaps it was his predicament in contrast with the celebratory Christmas lights. Whatever it was, I felt compelled to do something, and the only thing I could do was to offer to arrange accommodation. And so, with Jason in the front of my car and carrier bags, sleeping bag and tarpaulin in the back, I drove the mile or so to the Premier Inn. I checked him in under 'Business' to circumvent government regulations and paid for his stay. Some weeks later, the council stepped in.

Between that first meeting and now, I have learnt much about Jason – neglected childhood, children's homes, physical and sexual abuse, drug-taking, petty criminality, prison, and homelessness.

Since Christmas 2020, he and I have remained in close contact, and we meet every couple of weeks or sooner if he needs something. Whilst I cannot pretend that everything is going smoothly, things are looking brighter. He has a council unit of his own with a small garden and his life is morphing into something half-normal. But above all, his situation is helped by the support of Guildford Action, a drop-in centre for the homeless – an organisation located in a disused church next to Waitrose, Guildford, and managed by a supremely capable, highly efficient and caring CEO called Joanne Tester.

I met Joanne for the first time when she helped Jason move into his current council unit. Whilst I was there, she liaised with the gas and electricity companies to confirm occupancy, which is almost impossible over the phone, but she managed it, put Jason's washing on, completed his fridge calendar, told him she expected to see him at Guildford Action on Monday. And as she left, she gave him a wonderful antidote to social distancing - a big hug.

Joanne has created what she calls 'a family environment' at Guildford Action which delivers the ups and downs, and benefits of family life. For instance, when Jason was summoned to appear in court two weeks ago for a minor misdemeanour, I wrote a letter to the magistrates in support of Jason, but Joanne went to court to support him as she would for any member of her own family. Her approach cheers me. In my view, the major difference between Guildford Action and many other charities is that Guildford Action does not offer services, instead it delivers caring competency and invaluable friendship.

And that, in essence, is why the council wishes to interview me. They want to hear more about this unique place, its successes in setting people on the road to normality, and how we can build upon it.

I envisage that a part of building upon it will take the form of creating a Friends of Guildford Action group – people like you and me who can spare time to be a stable friend to those who live chaotic lives. Being a friend entails meeting someone for a coffee once a week or so – to listen, to chat and to be a person upon whom they can rely. Quite simply, people who live chaotic lives need friends. They have plenty of acquaintances, lovers even, but nobody to rely on; they have no friends.

I hope to create Friends of Guildford Action over the next few weeks, but in the meantime, do please come to our next 'Exploring Christianity' talk to raise money for Guildford Action. Our next 40-minute talk will be on **Sunday 16 October** at 6 pm at St Mary's. The topic will be on the life and legacy of William Wilberforce (see page 19). Please attend, please give, and please stay and chat afterwards over a glass of wine. And if you would like to know about being a Friend of Guildford Action, I would be delighted to tell you more.

Richard Walker, Churchwarden

This piece was written by Richard on 25 September, so by the time you read this he will have been to see SCC. I hope he received a positive response.



'Nature's Seasons: The Wildlife of our Parish'

Captured in pictures for a 2023 calendar

We are hugely fortunate that our Parish is situated amongst glorious countryside, including a number of areas of scientific interest and several nature reserves. All places of great natural beauty, they are home to a rich variety of flora and fauna.

Dockenfield residents Alex Potts and Alan Cox have combined their love of nature with their passion for photography to create a journey 'through the seasons' of the natural world that surrounds our villages.

Their collection of 13 superb photographs has been combined into a calendar of local wildlife for 2023 entitled 'Natures Seasons...the Wildlife of our Parish'. All photos have been taken locally and come with explanatory text.



This calendar will be launched at this month's exhibition 'The Art and Craft of our Parish' (see page 2) where it can be purchased for just £8. Thereafter it will be available from Frensham Village Shop, who are not producing a calendar of their own this year.

In a world where wildlife is increasingly under threat, it is hard to imagine a more beautiful or timely gift for your family, friends or for yourself. This is a limited-edition calendar, with all profits going to church funds.

Dartford Warbler on Frensham Common; Hummingbird Hawkmoth in Dockenfield; Starling murmuration over the Great Pond. Pictures by Alex Potts

Comings...

A warm welcome to Dockenfield to:

- Mrs Sobia Ahmad, Mr Ahsan Ahahsan, Munis Ahahsad and Nida Ahahmad who have moved into Abbotts Cottages. (*I sincerely hope that I have spelled these names correctly, as received. Apologies if not*)
- Richard and Jacky Baxter who have moved in to 'Thicket End' in High Thicket. They have moved to Dockenfield from Churt via a year-long rental in Liphook. Richard and Jacky have two adult daughters living in London

...and goings...

None that I have been made aware of 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

Dockenfield v Frensham Annual Cricket Match



Was it really a whole year ago that the villages of Dockenfield and Frensham played their annual match in such a closely fought battle (I mean match)? Much credit goes to Alex Peers, who has recently resurrected this annual cricket fixture like a phoenix rising from the ashes of history. Also, with Alex recovering from a full knee surgery, he was directing from the side-lines with his able 'Robin' to his Batman, Matt 'slogger' Barnes the man in charge of the field positions and team captain.

Training this year went up a gear or two with some serious nets practice at the Bluebell before the game, with sponsorship provided by Guinness and Stella Artois. The Lions of Dockenfield were all bar one supplied from within the local village, with one team

member driving straight from the Leeds music festival that morning at 4 am. Alex Rutherford, please take a bow?

Rules were agreed beforehand, retire at 25, can't be out off the first ball and every player had to bowl at least one over. Dockenfield were to field first and the weather looked set to provide a full day's cricket and the die was cast for the game we had all been looking forward to.

Frensham made a brisk start with some wonderful shots and some generous fielding by Dockenfield. The Frensham side look talented, young and eager to retain the cup which they had so narrowly won on the last over the previous year. Despite some consistent bowling, Frensham posted a handy score of 218 for their 35 overs. Frensham wickets were shared out equally of one wicket each by J Harris, H Baird, Slogger, P Roux, J Spice and C Thomas. Also, an honourable mention goes to young F Harris who was a great talent as the Dockenfield wicketkeeper.

During the tea interval there was a barbecue feast supplied by Alex Peers and cooked and burnt by the previous years' umpire, who was prohibited from umpiring this year due to the fact he does not know the laws of cricket! It was great to be post covid with some proper socialising, eating barbecue food and drinking beers, with not a mask in sight and James Frost keeping the bar in his distinct style.

Once the feasting was over and beers drunk, Dockenfield went out to chase the total of 219 to win. Pierre Roux, a South African married to an Aussie with a French name and who has recently moved into the village, opened the batting and although only scored 1 looked the part and will be back next year. Although Dockenfield were making steady progress, albeit slightly behind the optimal rate, the talented batting middle order turned the game on its head with Chris Thomas, F Harris, J Harris and J Morris all making over 25 and retiring. Decent cameo roles went to A Marman (11), H Jackson (15), J Spice (15) and 'Slogger' (13). However, Frensham became annoyingly competitive by bringing on their best bowlers and started to take regular wickets. Harry Jackson lost his wicket in spectacular style by trying to repeat his successful dilshan the previous ball (scoop shoot) but was clean bowled.

Again, similar to last year, the last three or four overs were dramatic with the run chase possible but Dockenfield were running out of both batsmen and overs. With the retiring batmen returning it was looking very good for Dockenfield but with two overs remaining Dockenfield lost their last batsman caught on the boundary and still 18 runs short of a winning total.

Frensham were deserved winners in the end and if we were to forensically review the match, the difference between the two sides was the fielding with Frensham generally sharper and more focused than Dockenfield.

Frensham were generous sporting hosts and a big thank you goes to the organisers, groundsman and supporters of both sides. I would really recommend coming to watch next year as there is simply something wonderful about catching up with friends, watching a village cricket match and enjoying a late summer's afternoon at Frensham Cricket Club. Date for your diaries is **28 August 2023**; you have heard it here first for the next Dockenfield v Frensham cricket match.

I am delighted to report that the Frensham Cricket club has approved the proposal that next year's Dockenfield v Frensham cricket match will be playing for the Lou Falkiner Challenge Cup in memory of a local lady who passed away earlier this year. Lou had a massive personality, loved her cricket and although living in Dockenfield, she also had strong Frensham connections. Three cheers for Frensham CC for supporting this proposal.

Dockenfield XII: P Roux, F Harris, C Thomas, A Rutherford, J Harris, O Baird, J Morris, A Marman, H Jackson, J Spice, S Luckett, 'Slogger' Barnes

Guy Jackson

Dockenfield celebrates the 100th anniversary of the birth of famous resident Pauline Baynes, born 9 September 1922



Even if you don't know her name, there can't be many of you who aren't familiar with, indeed love, the illustrations of Pauline Baynes. Best known for her work with CS Lewis on 'The Narnia Chronicles', and for JRR Tolkien on 'Lord of the Rings' and 'The Hobbit', she also drew the memorable front cover to Richard Adams's wonderful book on the world of rabbits, 'Watership Down'.

But how many of you appreciate that the illustrations for those and over 100 other books were drawn right here in Dockenfield? Just south of Great Holt in Heath Hill you will find Rock Barn Cottage, the home she loved so much and where she lived quietly as an unassuming friend and neighbour for so many years. Those that didn't know Pauline would have been surprised by the self-deprecating wit of so famous a person; her friends just saw the Pauline they knew and loved.

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 very few meetings with CS Lewis. It read: '*Met CS Lewis. Came home. Made rock cakes.*'

She continued to work at her desk beneath the garden window right up to her death on 1 August 2008 and 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.

Early in 1961, Pauline answered a knock on the door of her cottage from an itinerant meat salesman and on 18 March that year, after a whirlwind romance, married 'Fritz' Gasch who had served in Rommel's Afrika Korps during the Second World War, had been taken prisoner and had then been sent via the United States to an English POW camp. Once the war had ended, he had decided to adopt England as his home. '*Meeting Fritz*' Pauline once said, '*was the best thing that happened to me*'.

Pauline lived in Dockenfield from 15 April 1948 until her death in bed at home on 1 August 2008. That she loved the village dearly is witnessed by her gift of 'Fritz's Field' in the village in memory of her beloved husband; by the two beautiful stained-glass windows designed by her for the Church of the Good Shepherd; and by her service on Dockenfield Parish Council. At her request, her funeral service was held in the Good Shepherd.



She bequeathed her archive of several hundred drawings and paintings, her library of more than two thousand books and her intellectual property rights to the Oxford Programme of Williams College, Williamstown, Massachusetts. There is a second, small Baynes archive at the University of Oregon.

Dockenfield is commemorating the 100th anniversary of Pauline's birth with a celebration of her work as part of '**The Art and Craft of our Village**' exhibition which takes place on Saturday and Sunday 22-23 October, 10am-4pm daily. Full details on page 2.

News from Helen Arkell Dyslexia Centre

We've had a busy time since the start of the new academic year with lots of assessments going on, the start of new year-long courses for teachers and what is lovely is that everyone arrives through the same door and there's a real buzz to the place. We have also had people just passing who give us a knock and come in to ask questions and look in the shop – something that couldn't happen at Frensham.

If you fancy a nose around our new offices, our first Christmas Drinks at 24 West Street will be held on **Wednesday 30 November from 6 until 8pm**. Take a look at our website at www.helenarkell.org.uk for details. We would love to see you there!

Helen Mortimer

Frensham & Dockenfield Horticultural Society

Autumn Show

After facing one of the most challenging summers in many a decade, with the driest July in England since 1911, the driest summer since the drought of 1976 and the UK's highest recorded temperature of 40.3C, it is certainly a year that gardeners will not forget in a hurry.

However, it did not stop the society's members from putting on another great Autumn Show on Saturday 2 September at the Marindin Hall, in Frensham. It was no surprise that the number of entries was down from last year's record, but 266 entries from 38 entrants is still a credible performance.

We were congratulated by vegetable judge Belinda Allen for even holding a show, when others had cancelled and noted that the quality and breadth of vegetables was of a very high standard considering the challenging summer weather we had experienced.

We would like to congratulate the following winners:

- The Huitfeldt Cup was awarded to Penny Hearn for accumulating most points in the show (47).
- Karen Williams' interpretation of 'Gone to Seed' in class 2 Floral arrangements was awarded The Hunt Cup for most original flower arrangement and it was also considered by all the judges to be the exhibit of highest merit in the whole show, and she was also deservedly awarded the G.E. Morris Cup.
- Jilly Steventon was awarded the Lee-Jones Cup for highest points in Rose classes 5-8 and the Hunter Cup for most points (36) in classes 5-30 (flowers, shrubs and potted plants)
- Suzanne McLean won the Bill Othen Vase for dahlias.
- The AJ Stevens Cup was awarded to Neil Mumford for accumulating the highest number of points (21) across Vegetable Classes 31-45.
- The Atherton Cup for 'A collection of vegetables in a basket' was hotly contested by six entrants all of whom entered baskets of vegetables of the highest quality, the winner was Penny Hearn.
- The Colonel Earle Cup for most points in the fruit section, classes 48-55, was awarded to Roger Trout with 12 points.
- Penny Hearn showed her versatility by winning the Wilson Bowl for overall most points in Home Industries section.
- Lastly, The Machin-Cooke Cup for most points in the photography class was awarded to Caroline Plant.

Other Events

As we enter the end of the year, we will be holding our **AGM** and social evening on **Thursday 27 October** at the Marindin Hall at 7.30pm for an 8pm start.

The year will be rounded off by our annual Members Supper, which will be held on **Friday 25 November** at the Marindin Hall. Please save the date as this is an extremely popular event, and we will be contacting members with full details shortly.

If you are interested in joining the society, please contact either me on 07894 471000 or our membership secretary Jilly Steventon on membership@fdhs.org.uk **Neil Mumford**



The collection of vegetable entries at the Autumn Show

Letters to the Editor

At the time of writing there isn't an Editor in place to take over DNL from the New Year. I hope this situation changes, but for the meantime, if you have something you would like to say to the village, the next edition might be your last chance to do so, at least for a while.

Harvest Time

Are unwanted apples, pears and acorns littering your lawn? If you are tidying up any of the above and wondering where to dispose of them, the pigs at Orchard Farm animal sanctuary would be more than happy to receive them. Please bag/bin them up and leave them at the gate which you can find on the right as you head out of the village along Dockenfield Street towards Bucks Horn Oak.

They will be heartily enjoyed and much appreciated.

Anne Tutt

Please keep the stamps coming

Thank you for all the stamps received over the last few months. We pass them on so that they can be sold to raise money for charity. Please keep them coming: any country, any condition.

Jack and Marjorie Bessant, 1 Beales Cottages, The Street, Dockenfield, GU10 4JH

Is this farewell to DNL?

I'm sure that many of you will share with us in feeling a sense of sadness that the next edition will be the last ever publication of the Dockenfield (cont/)

Newsletter, affectionately known as the DNL. It has been lovingly crafted by Michael Foster over the years, alongside a number of volunteers trudging out in all weathers to deliver the Newsletter to our doorsteps. I'm sure the whole village will join with us in thanking Michael for his tireless work, creativity and determination to keep this great tradition going, even if it meant having to nag us for contributions – sorry Michael!

So a big thank you, Michael, from us all.

It may be that the Newsletter can be resurrected in the future, perhaps in a different way such as a digital format, so if you're feeling at all able to contribute to this, please do contact Paul Wood at dockenfieldchairman@hotmail.com or email Michael.foster66@btinternet.com

Dockenfield Activities Committee

That's very kind of you to write; thank you for your lovely comments which I have published without alteration. But it need not be the end of DNL, it's just the end of me as its Editor. For the benefit of the village, I really hope that someone will step forward to carry on DNL and put their own stamp on it.

Whoever does that will have my grateful thanks and (I believe) those of the readers. I offer my absolute help to anybody (or group) who volunteers to take my place. Editing DNL is (despite having to occasionally 'nag' contributors!), a very rewarding job and much appreciated by its readers.

Millbridge WI

Recent Millbridge WI meetings have included a delightful garden party held in a member's garden, which gave all our members and their guests the opportunity for a social catch-up and a delicious supper; and in August our speaker was Mike Coates from RSPB, who related the re-wilding of Farnham Heath from conifer plantation to its original heathland habitat, and the natural reintroduction of birds and other animals this has generated.

September's meeting invited Graham King to exhibit his skill in the making of artistic containers from sometimes extraordinary materials, and he then demonstrated how to top these with glorious floral arrangements. Three lucky members won these arrangements to take home.

Upcoming events include a talk on Neal's Yard in October, the WI's AGM in November and our Christmas party for members and their guests in December. The regular Craft Afternoons and Book Club meetings are continuing on a monthly basis – we are currently reading our 50th book! The inter-WI annual competition between ourselves and neighbouring WIs is now complete, and we will be hosting a skittles evening for them in November, with an accompanying fish & chip supper. Millbridge WI will also be running a quiz at the Legion on Saturday 12 November, and also the raffle and sales table at the Christmas dinner Village Lunch on Wednesday 23 November.

Monthly meetings take place in the Marindin Hall on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30 pm, and new members and visitors will be most welcome to come and hear our speakers. Our website, Facebook and Instagram pages (see millbridgewi.co.uk for more details) provide a showcase for our many activities. **Janet McFadyen**

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).

Time for fine new feathers

During late summer you may have noticed that there were fewer birds in your garden, and those which were about were looking a little untidy. If so, it would not be surprising. The breeding season was their busiest time, with all that courting, nest-building, and rearing broods of hungry chicks. Chaffinches and Tits usually rear single broods each year. (Blue Tits have been known to raise twelve nestlings in a brood!) Blackbirds, Robins, Wrens and Sparrows usually rear two or more smaller broods. All parent birds work constantly to feed their young, and their plumage shows wear and tear after all the hectic activity. All birds will have experienced the irritation caused by higher numbers of parasites in warm weather with the inevitable dust and dirt. These too will have contributed to the dilapidated state of their feathers.

Nature compensates. Most birds go into moult at the end of the breeding season, losing some of their year-old feathers as the new ones grow through underneath. The new plumage will improve their flight capacity, and will also give more effective insulation in the approaching colder weather. During their moult the birds cannot be as quick to escape predators, so they lurk in unobtrusive places, nipping out to feed before returning to the cover of trees and shrubs.

Garden birds don't lose all their old feathers at once. Wing and tail feathers are usually shed first, pair by pair, until all are replaced over a period of a few weeks. Feathers are shed evenly, one from the right side and one from the left, so that a reasonable balance is maintained in flight. The new feathers appear as buds protruding from follicles in the skin, and these feather buds rapidly lengthen and eventually split to allow the new feathers to emerge and grow into shape.

Body feathers moult in much the same way, but in a slower process which may have started during the breeding season. Blackbirds are first to show their moulting pattern. You may notice that they shed their head feathers last of all, so that the young birds, whose first plumage was quite brownish, appear almost ginger-headed until their moult is complete. Some species need to employ special strategies. The Great Spotted Woodpecker, which relies on its two long central tail feathers for support when climbing or clinging, retains the old pair until all its other tail feathers have been replaced.

It is not only garden birds which moult. Have you ever wondered where all the male Mallards go in late summer, when it seems that only groups of females are about on lakes and ponds? Some of those 'females' are actually males. Male mallards temporarily lose their handsome iridescent green and purple head plumage and look almost as drab as the females, until their new finery grows through. All ducks, geese and swans retreat into the shelter of waterside vegetation while they moult, because, unlike other birds, they lose all their flight feathers simultaneously, so they are completely flightless for about four weeks. When they do fly again, this season's offspring will have developed their wing feathers, and will be able to fly with their parents for the first time.

As the season turns the birds are ready for the autumn and winter conditions to come, with their fine new plumage.

Val Lewis

Tea at 3

Always held in St Mary's Church Hall, Frensham, on the first Monday of each month (except bank holidays) For many years Tea at 3, our monthly social get-together, had become a welcome and much enjoyed a regular date in our village calendar.

In the Autumn of 2021 after the periods of long nationwide pandemic lockdowns, we invited all our regular attendees and new people to come along for Tea at 3 once again. Life was beginning to open up, and many of us were tentatively trying to get back to socialising once again. We have continued to meet up regularly since then for our monthly get togethers for tea and delicious home-made cakes, plus of course lots of chat with old friends and new acquaintances.

It leaves me to thank our many wonderful regular volunteers, who come along and help serve tea and bake the delicious cakes that we all enjoy.

Just two more Tea at 3 dates for your diaries before Christmas: **7 November and 5 December** for our special Christmas tea and raffle. Please do carry on coming and bring along a friend. If you are new to our villages of Dockenfield and Frensham come and join us, you will be most welcome, it's a great way to meet people and get to know what's going on.

Many thanks to all for your continuing support.

Sandy Taylor

Village Lunch

Village lunch is on the 4th Wednesday in each month. The next lunch on **26 October** will be cottage pie with an alternative vegetarian cottage pie and the usual choice of puddings followed by tea or coffee and the charity stall and raffle being on behalf of the St Mary's Trust.

The Christmas lunch will be on **Wednesday 23 November** and will cost £5 and **must be booked in advance**. Due to the cost of living etc we are having to take the £5 at the time of booking and it will be non-refundable. Bookings started at the 28 September lunch. The charity stall and raffle will be run by Millbridge W.I.

There will be no Village Lunch in December but we recommence on **25 January 2023** with sausage casserole when the charity stall and raffle is being run by the Legion.

The Village Lunch is getting more popular each month and it is lovely to see so many people coming. Where else can you get such delicious home cooked food for £5; and the bar will be open at the British Legion. Lunch is served with table service at 12.30 prompt but the Legion is open from 11.45am so people can have a drink and peruse the stall and obtain their raffle tickets and socialise beforehand.

The Hearing Champion, Eunice, will be back to assist people with their hearing aids, batteries and cleaning etc after the lunch.

Pam Watmore

'Songs of Autumn and the Sea' Concert by Cantique

Sunday, 16 October, 6.30pm at All Saints Church, Headley GU35 8PW

The well-renowned local chamber choir 'Cantique' will be singing in another fund-raising concert, this time at All Saints Church in Headley on Sunday, 16 October at 6.30pm. This group of experienced choristers sing together for their own pleasure to raise money for charities and other worthwhile causes – and have fun doing it. Having attended their last concert in July at Holy Cross Church in Binsted with visiting friends, I can honestly say that the standard of singing was brilliant and the audience was completely wowed. What's more the concert raised a thumping amount of money (over £2,000) towards the repair of the church's stained glass Victorian window.

Cantique's next concert is in Headley and has a seasonal and nautical theme, entitled 'Songs of Autumn and the Sea' with music by (amongst others) Victoria, Elgar, Parry and Vaughan Williams and I'm really looking forward to it. Please contact Tina Wareham by email: admin@allsaintsheadley.org or tel: 01428 717207 for tickets which are £10 (including a glass of wine and nibbles).

Their musical director, the energetic and enthusiastic Richard Walshaw, is a highly experienced conductor of choral and orchestral works, and this will be his fourth concert with the choir.

For more information about 'Cantique' visit: cantique.org or follow them on [facebook.com/Cantiquechoir](https://www.facebook.com/Cantiquechoir) **Debbie Foster**

Calling all ladies of Dockenfield to a Ladies Night!

A few of us fellow Dockenfield ladies have been thinking it would be good to plan a pre- Christmas ladies gathering before the madness kicks in!

There is a group of us already who meet impromptu-style at the pub and we would love to give the regular monthly 'Men's Night' a run for their money! We know there are many new village faces and we'd love to meet you!

If you fancy a fun evening at the pub and a chance to see friends and meet other village ladies, these are the important details:

- Date -**Thursday 24 November**
- Time and place-**from 8pm at the Bluebell**
- Enjoy some drinks together - and food for those who would like to (there will be many partaking!)
- Last food orders 8.45pm. Last drink orders 10pm.

Please let Joolz Miles know if you can make it (or to add yourself to the WhatsApp or email distribution list). We have reserved a few tables but can add to that.

Joolz Miles 07833355359 or joolzlmiles@aol.com

Men's Night at the Bluebell

These happen every second Thursday of the month at the Bluebell starting from 8pm, with most people eating although that isn't obligatory. Normally there are about 12 – 15 fellas there so there's lots of interesting conversation to be had, and loads of laughs too.

You don't have to live in Dockenfield to attend, all are welcome. The next two dates are **13 October** and **10 November**.

If you are new to the village, Men's Nights are a brilliant way of getting to know people. Full details from **Mark Rosling**: markrosling@outlook.com or just pitch up at the pub. You will be made very welcome.

Wearing their country's colours with pride

I have taken to wearing blue and yellow ribbons, hanging them from my belt, in support of the fight for democracy and freedom in Ukraine. I continued the habit when travelling in Poland last month, a country greatly impacted by the terrible events unfolding in their immediate neighbour.

Perhaps I shouldn't have been, but I was amazed by the amount of people calling out in support and coming up and shaking my hand. It seems to me that such deep felt emotional commitment cannot be quelled by the use of guns alone.

Thought for the day

'You know, there are two good things in life, freedom of thought and freedom of action.' Somerset Maugham

Dark thought for the day

I was sent this quote by a friend and was reminded of it when visiting Auschwitz recently, especially with the terrible events unfolding in neighbouring Ukraine. It is so important to learn the lessons of the past, but it seems some people are unable to do so.

'Propaganda works best when those who are being manipulated are confident they are acting on their own free will.'
Joseph Goebbels

Monthly Organ Recitals at St Mary's Church

The monthly Organ Recitals in St Mary's Church take place on the 3rd Tuesday of every month with visiting organists presenting varied programmes of accessible organ music on what is one of the best organs in the area.

The series continues with Carl Jackson (Hampton Court Palace) on **18 October** and Richard Moore (Guildford Cathedral) on **15 November**. The recital on Tuesday **20 December** will include music for Christmas.

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.

Details of the organ recitals are also available on St Mary's Church website: <https://www.frenshamchurches.org.uk/organrecitals.htm>

Mike Smith

News from Frensham Village Shop

We are delighted to welcome our new Shop Manager, *Etsil Boukhobza*, who ran Downing Street Deli a few years ago and managed Tesco Express in Farnham more recently. He has already had a positive impact in the shop, adding to our range of stock and welcoming all-comers...he's always happy to have a chat, bringing energy and experience in addition to his interest in supporting the community by engaging local producers.

Look out for an increased range of red wines near the door – some light and fruity and others that are deep, smooth drinking reds...yum!

We have a larger range of fudge from "Mummy makes Fudge", fresh flowers donated by locals and local honey from Kingsley.

In the freezers, we have increased our varieties of curries from "Sprinkle of Safran", plus our selection of 'Mud Pies' and frozen fish products by the Fabulous Catch Company.

We have decided to move to **winter hours** for the Shop, closing at 5.30pm from Monday -Wednesday, whilst keeping longer hours on Thursday and Friday when we close at 7pm.

Please make the most of the longer opening hours on Thursdays and Fridays. Thanks for your support as always and keep shopping locally.

Bruce Milne

Just imagine...

If *every* household that receives DNL gave just *one* item of food to the Food Bank every month. It might cost as little as 30p, but if everyone did it, it would make the world of difference. Why? Because that would total around 500 items of food we can deliver every month, which would be wonderful. Don't get me wrong, we have some very generous and regular donors, but the truth is overall the amount of food being donated (not just in our parish but throughout Farnham) no longer matches the growing need. So if you can help, even with just one item, we would be enormously grateful. You can leave your donations:

- 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



'Coffee Stop' at the Good Shepherd

10-midday every Friday

Having just celebrated its first anniversary, 'Coffee Stop' is going from strength to strength. It is becoming a 'must do' fixture in the diaries of more and more people, which is huge testimony to Barbara Potter whose idea it was and who continues to run it.

Do go along. You will meet lots of lovely people and enjoy home-made cakes and coffee/tea for just £2. Open every Friday 10-12noon.

There's nothing like having your finger on the pulse of events

A senior economic correspondent for CNN (the American TV News Channel) when asked to comment on the likely ramifications of the day's global events on world economies responded by saying: *'It's difficult to make predictions, especially about the future'*.

Which is precisely the kind of incisive, cutting-edge analysis you have every right to expect when you employ TV presenters with top dollar salaries.

The driest month since our records began...

You won't be surprised to learn that the rainfall figures for the month of July make extraordinary reading. Just take a look:

2021: July – 83.4mm; August – 51.6mm

2022: July - 2.4mm; August – 63.3mm

July was the driest month of any year since Dockenfield records began. There were only 2 days when it rained. **Jack Bessant**

The lawn and long grass in our garden this summer! - Ed



The top ten jokes from the 2022 Edinburgh Festival

Just to make you smile:

1. I tried to steal spaghetti from the shop, but the female guard saw me and I couldn't get pasta - Masai Graham
2. Did you know, if you get pregnant in the Amazon, it's next-day delivery - Mark Simmons
3. My attempts to combine nitrous oxide and Oxo cubes made me a laughing stock - Olaf Falafel
4. By my age, my parents had a house and a family, and to be fair to me, so do I - but it is the same house and it is the same family - Hannah Fairweather
5. I hate funerals - I'm not a mourning person - Will Mars
6. I spent the whole morning building a time machine, so that's four hours of my life that I'm definitely getting back - Olaf Falafel
7. I sent a food parcel to my first wife. FedEx - Richard Pulsford
8. I used to live hand to mouth. Do you know what changed my life? Cutlery - Tim Vine
9. Don't knock threesomes. Having a threesome is like hiring an intern to do all the jobs you hate - Sophie Duker
10. I can't even be bothered to be apathetic these days - Will Duggan

Bishop Henry Beaufort – Not as bad as he was painted

In 1403 King Henry IV made Henry Beaufort, then Bishop of Lincoln, the new Bishop of Winchester. With the exception of Milan, Winchester was the richest diocese in the whole of Europe. It is not surprising therefore, that throughout much of its history the riches of the See of Winchester were gifted to those with strong royal connections. Henry Beaufort was one of these.

As pedigrees and connections go, it could not have been much better for Henry. Being the 30-year-old son of John of Gaunt, the Duke of Lancaster, and grandson of King Edward III, cousin of King Richard II, and Lord Chancellor and half-brother of King Henry IV, Beaufort's selection was probably seen as both logical and

Cont/

Cont/

A number of Beaufort's contemporaries, or near contemporaries, tell us more about the man. He was well educated, having studied in Aachen, Cambridge and Oxford, but words such as arrogant, avaricious, and deceitful have also long been directed at him. Scandal too surrounded his name when, as Bishop of Lincoln, rumours associated him with fathering an illegitimate daughter.

His move to Winchester was highly beneficial. As Bishop of Winchester, some state his income from the See alone amounted to the equivalent of about £900,000 per annum, at current levels. In addition, he seems to have had other sources of revenue stemming from his own estates and taxes on the wool trade.

His royal connections and significant wealth cemented his usefulness to the Crown, particularly during the reigns of King Henry V and his son, Henry VI, an infant at the time of his succession. Furthermore, having been created Cardinal by Pope Martin V in 1426, he became, in the eyes of many, the great statesman of his age. His successive earthly rulers made a man with his connections and assets a valued resource. Their military efforts to hold acquired and contested territories in France, were a constant source of expense and needed to be financed. Beaufort's personal wealth and position made him the king's trusted lender of choice, right through to his death in April 1447. Charging excessive interest rates on escalating royal loans, made Cardinal Henry Beaufort even richer.

All this paints a fairly black picture of someone holding the country's highest religious office whose focus seemed less on spiritual guidance and more on political positioning and financial opportunism. Writing some 120 years after Beaufort's death, Shakespeare seems to support this negative perception. In his play 'Henry VI' the Earl of Warwick (in Beaufort's final hour), reflects that "so bad a death argues at a monstrous life".

One association that has become prevalent and widely reported is the role of Henry Beaufort in the trial and execution of Joan of Arc. More apparent since the 19th century, Beaufort is shown as presiding at her trial, integral to the death sentence placed upon her, present at her execution and, according to some, ordering her ashes to be thrown into the River Seine so that no trace of her was left. In his painting of 1824, now hanging in the Musée des Beaux-Arts in Rouen, Paul Delaroche shows Cardinal Henry Beaufort interrogating Joan. As her eyes point plaintively towards a future in heaven, the scowling and angry Beaufort points his finger threateningly towards the ground and hell.

Yet the relatively modern and extensively researched museum in Rouen dedicated to the life, trial and execution of Joan of Arc, lists not one English name amongst those judging, questioning or sentencing her. Likewise, the name of Beaufort does not appear anywhere.

In Farnham in 1922, Father Etienne Robo decided that a new and larger Catholic church was required to support the growing number of parishioners in the town. As Joan of Arc had been canonised only two years before that, and the chosen site had views stretching over the Wey to Farnham Castle (Beaufort's occasional residence some 500 years earlier), naming the new church St. Joan of Arc acted as a fitting rebuke and "act of reparation" for Beaufort's perceived involvement in her death. With the benefit of hindsight, the basis for the choice of church name, for the reasons given at the time, are misplaced. However, regardless of its name, Father Robo's church has served Farnham's community successfully since its opening in 1930.



The unfounded link between Beaufort and St. Joan was maintained in Winchester Cathedral when, in 1922, a statue of Joan of Arc was placed diagonally opposite Beaufort's tomb. This was seen as an 'act of reconciliation' by the Church of England.

Derek Carpenter, Farnham Castle Charity and Trust and Dockenfield Resident

This is the second of two articles that have appeared in DNL having first appeared in the Farnham Herald. I am very grateful to Derek for allowing DNL to feature them as they give readers a wonderful insight into the history of Farnham and its castle.



Aerial view of Farnham Castle and Keep



Queen Elizabeth II 1926-2022

**We pay tribute to our Queen for her
dedicated service to the nation.**

**After mourning her death on 8
September, we give thanks for her
long life, well-lived, and remember
with gratitude her unswerving
devotion to us as Sovereign for
more than 70 years.**

‘Exploring Christianity’ Talks at St Mary’s

Our next talks to interest, inform, and inspire those who wish to learn about God will be focused on the achievements of extraordinary Christians whose life, work and courage have shaped our culture, influenced our thinking, and positively affected our world.

Sunday 16 October, 6pm: ‘William Wilberforce’ by Richard Walker. In the context of the history and prevalence of slavery, we discuss William Wilberforce (1759 – 1833) Christian, charismatic speaker, and politician, who drove a relentless campaign for the abolition of slavery despite suffering ill health.

Sunday 20 November, 6pm: ‘William Tyndale’ by Roy Waight. William Tyndale (1494 – 1536) genius linguist and biblical scholar was chiefly responsible for ensuring that English Language could be understood by common people. His English translation of the New Testament is one of the most important books ever written. One of the great consequences of Tyndale's work was an astonishing rise in literacy throughout the 16th century because of people’s desire to study the English Bible.

Sunday 11 December, 6pm: ‘George Müller’ by Richard Walker. George Müller (1805 – 1898) was a young church minister at the time of the worst cholera epidemic of the 19th century. He cared for abandoned children, tended to their fears, read to them about God, gave them hope, and provided them with food and shelter.

He went on to build the first orphanages in England. He also formed charities such as The Scriptural Knowledge Institution which even today, 124 years after his death, pays out £95,000 a month in support of the needy.

Each talk starts at 6pm, lasts 40-minutes, is accompanied by slides and followed by discussion over wine and canapés.

Richard Walker



Honouring our late Queen - The liveries at Fiona and Harvey Ricketts's stables in Frensham decided to honour our late Queen Elizabeth II. So, on Monday 19 September Annabelle Sutton, Tracey Clark, Kelly Smith, Naomi Baldwin and Emily Boniface, along with Fiona, rode their horses to the memorial on Frensham Common. We observed a 2-minute silence following which we toasted Her late Majesty with a tot of Dubonnet and Port. **Annabelle Sutton**

Booking Form - SKITTLES EVENING – FRIDAY 4 NOVEMBER 6.30 for 7pm

Please book tickets (£17 each) for the Skittles Evening at the Jolly Farmer, Blacknest.

Please pay by bank transfer if possible (details available by emailing Katy) or cheque payable to KA Poulson.

Name(s): Date of booking:

Address:

Tel: Email:

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

.....

Food Choices: complete the numbers of meals from the choices below.

All basket meals are served with chips, apart from the Jacket Potato which is accompanied by a mixed salad.

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

Please state if you have any food allergies/intolerances/sensitivities that need to be taken into account:.....

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

Dockenfield Newsletter is produced entirely by volunteers. Neither the Editor nor any of the contributors or distributors claim payment or expenses of any kind. The only cost is that of printing and this is paid for by Dockenfield Parish Council who consider the Newsletter an important service to the village. The views expressed are not necessarily the views of the Parish Council. Letters and articles that are submitted for publication are credited to their author and/or their organisation. All unaccredited articles have been written by the editor. Contributors should also note that the Newsletter appears on the Dockenfield Parish Council website. Hard copies of Dockenfield Newsletter are delivered six times a year to all 250 or so households in and around the village. In addition around 200 people, predominantly but not necessarily local, are emailed a copy upon publication. Both services are entirely free of charge and without obligation.

If you don't live in the village but enjoy reading the Newsletter, and would like to be added to this mailing list please email michael.foster66@btinternet.com Please be reassured that this mailing list is used to distribute pdf copies of the Newsletter and for no other purpose, and will never be disclosed to any third party. Alternatively, if you are already on this list and wish to unsubscribe at any time, again just email as above and your name will be removed from the list immediately. Many readers like to save their copies of the Newsletter, but if you don't do this, then please recycle carefully. The deadline for the next edition is **7 November 2022** with items sent by email please, ideally as a Word attachment, to michael.foster66@btinternet.com. Or through the door at Farm Cottage, Bealeswood Lane.