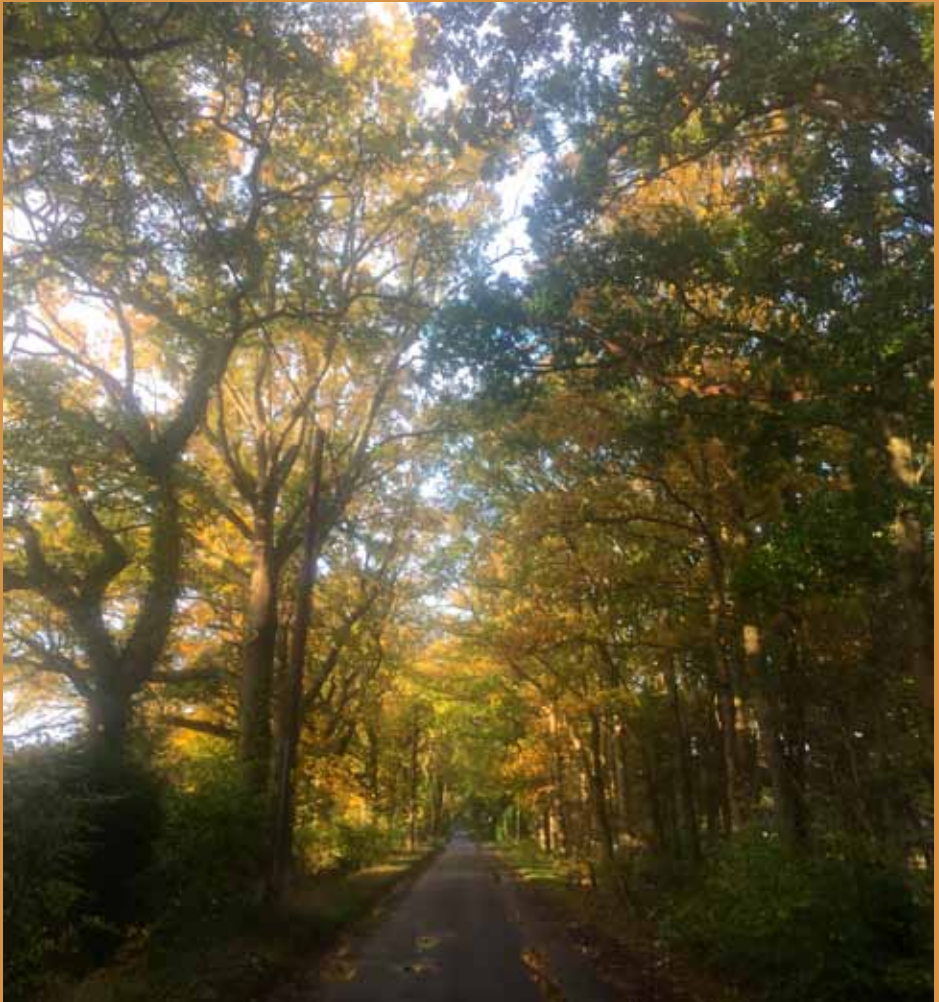


SMALLFIELD *and* BURSTOW PARISH NEWS

40P

OCTOBER 2020



Your Village Magazine



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SMALLFIELD *and* BURSTOW PARISH NEWS

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Please contact Angela Sullivan (*details above*) if you would like Parish News delivered to you every month

This month's cover photograph was taken in Church Road, Burstow

Your Village Magazine

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RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

Last month I spent 14 days in quarantine after a summer break in France. I rather enjoyed it! I'm lucky to have a nice garden, including space out the front and most of my work is computer or telephone based at the moment – even the Sunday services!

I was going to say it was my first experience of quarantine but then I realised I'd done it before! The word quarantine comes from the Italian word for 40, quaranta, which was the number of days that ships arriving in Venice at the time of the Black Death had to isolate. So quarantine was originally a period of 40 days, which was the length of time that I spent in the Sinai desert in 2014. I was aware of the connection with 40 because before I went into the desert I'd read a novel by Jim Grace called *Quarantine*, about a group of people who choose to spend 40 days in the desert, during which they encounter a solitary figure who, though not named as such, is clearly based on the figure of Jesus.

None of the characters in the novel had a very easy time, unlike the title character of another novel, Robinson Crusoe, who, although occasionally lonely, basically enjoys his 25 years of solitude until he meets Friday. The author, Daniel Defoe, a devout Protestant Christian, gives Crusoe a copy of the Bible from the shipwreck and a religious conversion, in order to give him God for company. Unlike Robinson Crusoe I didn't have a Bible with me in the desert. There had been those who had urged me to take one, shocked almost that I wasn't, but I knew I didn't want to take anything to read. I wanted to spend time in solitude and find out what came out of me, not put anything else into me, so I took only a blank notebook and pen.

But not every Christian has found solitude an inspiring experience. John Donne, who died 30 years before Defoe was born, was just as devout as Defoe, though in a different tradition, being a priest in the Church of England. In 1623, when aged 51 and Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral, he fell gravely ill. It was a time when epidemics of diseases such as typhoid and cholera were rife, and he was forced into isolation. It was not a pleasant experience for him and he wrote: 'As sickness is the greatest misery, so the greatest misery of sickness is solitude.' It led him to write a meditation on his experience of sickness which contains the famous words 'no man is an island'.

(Continued overleaf)

One of the big differences between Robinson Crusoe's experience and John Donne's (apart for the length of time) is that Crusoe's was outside and Donne's was inside. I would have found my recent 14-day quarantine very difficult if I hadn't been able to go outside. Being outside was one of the things I really appreciated about the desert: spending 40 days and 40 nights outside, sleeping on the sand with the stars above, surrounded by the beauty of the natural world.

And spending time in solitude and in the beauty of the natural world was the experience of another Christian poet, William Wordsworth, who most famously 'wandered lonely as a cloud' in the Lake District and found joy in the company of a host of daffodils. His poem ends with this verse:

*For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.*

'The bliss of solitude' is a lovely phrase and his experience of 'wandering lonely as a cloud' was one he rejoiced in and fondly remembered. I can relate to his experiences, though my wanderings are on the South Downs rather than in the Lake District. But Wordsworth's experience is very different from Donne's. For Wordsworth solitude was 'bliss', marked by a feeling of aloneness and a positive experience. For Donne, solitude was a 'misery', marked by a feeling of loneliness and a negative experience.

And what about for me? I would say that solitude is a positive experience and loneliness is a negative one. In the desert I was very solitary, but I was not lonely. I had not one but two Man Fridays, who were with me all the time, not just at the end like Robinson Crusoe. My two Bedouin guides fed and watered me and kept me safe. But they also did something else, perhaps without realising it – their company nourished me. Before I went, I didn't realise how much that would matter. They didn't speak English so we couldn't have a conversation but our shared humanity and simple togetherness, maybe chopping wood or carrying water, was in the end the most precious thing that the desert gave me. It reminded me that though I have always found God in the beauty of nature, my deepest experiences of God have been through my encounters with those around me.

And what about you? All of us over the last few months have had some form of isolation imposed on us, through lockdown, shielding or social distancing. How has that experience of isolation been for you? I'd really like to hear how you might answer that. Do feel able to email, write or talk to me about it. I'd love to know.

With love and prayers
Nicholas

Nicholas.calver@btinternet.com

NEW FRUIT AND VEGETABLE GROWING INITIATIVE IN SMALLFIELD

Plans are being developed for a space to be provided for a community project to grow fruit and veg with the aim of promoting healthy eating in the area.

Supported by the Smallfield Surgery and Horley Primary Care Network, it is hoped that all members of the Smallfield Community, from young to old, will be able to participate in the growing process under the supervision of an experienced gardener. The produce will greatly help those in the community who at the moment are unable to include fresh fruit and veg in their family diets.

The first step is to find an experienced fruit and veg gardener(s) to lead this exciting new initiative. This is a voluntary role but the time commitment shouldn't be too onerous as we are expecting great help from the Village. However, these willing hands will need help to develop their expertise.

If this role is of interest or you know somebody who could be interested in it, please call or text Pete Hughes on 07836 607637 for more details.

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BURSTOW PAROCHIAL CHARITIES

Burstow Parochial Charities administers the grants made by the Henry Smith Charities to the parishes of Burstow and Outwood. Henry Smith was a wealthy entrepreneur who, when he died in 1628, left a trust fund for the relief of the poor in 202 parishes around England. Burstow Parochial Charities also incorporates bequests left to the parish of Burstow by Rev Dr Cooke and his wife Margaret, the Rev John Flamsteed and Sir Francis Montefiore. Rev Dr Cooke and the Rev Flamsteed were both Rectors of Burstow in the late 17th/early 18th centuries and Sir Francis Montefiore was a local wealthy landowner who died in the mid-20th century.

The funds are ultimately controlled by the Charity Commissioners, and Burstow and Outwood have four trustees, plus the Rector, appointed to administer the charities.

Vouchers are delivered at the end of November/beginning of December for the purchase of food at specified stores. The amount given each year is variable, depending on the income from the Charity Commissioners. Donations are also given to various local groups and we give book tokens to students undertaking further education courses, to help towards the cost of books they need for their course. We also keep a reserve of money in the charity's bank account so that we are able to respond to requests during the year to help those in need.

If you live in the parishes of Burstow or Outwood and would like to apply for vouchers or a grant or know someone else who would benefit from these, please apply in writing to the Rector at The Rectory, 5 The Acorns, Smallfield, RH6 9QJ or by email to Nicholas.Calver@btinternet.com

CHURCH SERVICES ONLINE AND ON CD

The churches of Burstow, Horne and Outwood are all open for private prayer all day, every day. Please follow the guidelines posted on the door. A weekly service is posted on the church website. If you have internet access, go to www.windmillchurches.co.uk where you will see the current service listed at the top of the page – you just need to click on the name of the service to access it.

If you don't have internet access but would like to be part of the weekly services, or know someone else who would appreciate them, ring or email Nicholas (01342 842224; Nicholas.calver@btinternet.com) and he will arrange to get a service delivered on a CD. Also, people can listen to the weekly service in the Windmill United Benefice at their usual times on a Sunday Burstow, 9.30am; Horne, 10am; Outwood, 11am). Again, please follow all the guidelines, including the requirement to wear masks in church.

CENTENARY HALL – 25 YEARS ON

Last month, September 2020, marked the 25th anniversary of Burstow Parish Council moving into the brand new Centenary Hall. Alan Jones recalls the process

We received the keys to the building from the contractors on 21 September 1995 after the first turf had been cut on 6 February 1995 (see pictures, opposite). Although the hall's name suggests that it was being built to commemorate the millennium for the approaching year 2000, it actually became operational in 1995 to celebrate 100 years since Parish Councils were instigated countrywide – although we are unsure when Burstow Parish Council was formed.

Jubilee Hall, the old village school in Redehall Road, was previously the home of the Parish Council and, by selling it, the money raised went towards the design and build of the present building on the old allotment site. In order to get planning permission it was necessary to ensure that sufficient allotment plots were still available within the Parish. As enough plots were available in Plough Road and at Copthorne Bank this planning issue was satisfactorily met.

There were a number of challenges with opening a new building, especially as we now had rooms to let. The main hall was named Burstow, another was called Outwood and the third was named Margaret Paveley. The latter had done much sterling work as a District Councillor in the past, being deceased and having died of cancer, she was one of the instigators for developing the Smallfield Pharmacy site. Margaret Paveley Room was to be used by day as a pre-school run by Maria McDermott that had transferred with the Parish Council from Jubilee Hall. You may wonder now why one of the rooms is called 'Outwood'. This came about because in 1995 Outwood Village was within the Burstow Parish Council boundary and did not receive its own Parish Council status until the year 2000. When the Parish Council moved into Centenary Hall, our Chairman, Ian Bowring, and Vice-chairman, Jean Bristow, were both Outwood residents.

Elections to the Parish Council had been held in May 1995 so there had been a small change of councillors that included Michael Keenan, Heather Cullum, and Alan Jones. Other names you may recall were Jean Bristow and Ian Bowring from Outwood, Diana Brown, Doreen Ledwidge, Chris Wigby, Tony Gaynott and Ian Paveley. The part-time Parish clerk was Ray Edwards from Horley. The previous council had done a sterling job by raising the necessary money to plan and build the new hall but it seemed that nobody

Continued on page 27



Above: Cutting the first sod. Several councillors with contractor staff include: Jean Bristow, Ian Bowring, Tony Gay-Knott, Diana Brown and Ray Edwards, Parish Clerk

Right: Dame Judi Dench and her husband Michael Williams at the official Opening of Centenary Hall on 3 November 1995

Below: Handover of the keys from the contractors on 21 September 1995. Those present, were Alan Jones, Chris Wigby, Ray Edwards, Jean Bristow, Contractors' Representative, Doreen Ledwidge, Mrs Gay-Knott and Tony Gay-Knott



All pictures courtesy of Jean Bristow

JUNE DUNN
31 August 1932 -
28 July 2020

June, of Hayes Walk, whose poems featured in the Parish News, died in July after a six-week illness, the final three in hospital. Here, June's daughter Julie looks back over her mother's life and shares her last poem



June was born in Brixton in August 1932. She left school to start a course to be a Court Dressmaker as she loved sewing and working with textiles. However her father had other plans for her and sent her up to Manchester to play saxophone and clarinet for the Ivy Benson Dance Band when she was only 14. June was a very good musician but hated being away from her family so returned to London after 18 months.

June then worked in the printing trade for Royals in London. She enjoyed and was very proud of her work. She loved going dancing in the evenings and met the love of her life, Eddie, at the Loccano Dance Hall in Streatham.

They were married in 1953 and had two children, Julie and Geoff. The family lived in Clapham Common and Merton Park before moving to their much-loved bungalow in Hayes Walk. Sadly in 2015 June lost her beloved husband to Alzheimers.

Living on her own June, positive as ever, still enjoyed her beautiful garden, sewing, making cards, watching football and snooker on TV, reading books and writing her poetry.

June thoroughly enjoyed the weekly community coffee mornings (Welcome on Wednesdays: WOW) and made some very special friends there. She was always happy, funny, full of positivity, friendly and kind to everyone. She was full of ideas as to things to do each week, sang along to the music and loved to share the poems she wrote. Her words and subjects hit a familiar note with the other members and she was so grateful and proud to entertain everyone. Her family started to call her 'Nanny Shakespeare' which she laughed at but she so looked forward to seeing her poems in print in the Parish Magazine each month.

June always said her family was her religion and she loved hearing all their news. Her two children, six grandchildren and two great grandchildren gave her so much joy and they always looked to her for advice, encouragement, support, love, cuddles and laughter. June passed away holding her two children's hands. We are so proud and blessed to have had such a wonderful Mum who we miss terribly but will keep her in our hearts forever.

Turn to page 14 to read June's last poem and one written in her memory

ALISON LEE
6 April 1944 -
25 August 2020

Ali, also of Hayes Walk, died in August, also after a spell in East Surrey Hospital



Ali was born in Redhill in 1944 and put up for adoption as a baby, growing up in a loving family. Recently, she found her birth brother and they were in contact for a few months before she died.

Ali trained to be a nurse at the old Redhill General hospital and moved to East Surrey hospital as a qualified nurse. She also volunteered at Crabhill House in South Nutfield, and did a huge amount of fundraising for the home, as well as for the NSPCC and St Catherine's Hospice.

She had a real passion for nursing, but her other passions were her family – her sons, her daughters and her beloved granddaughters. Another passion was animals – when she lived in South Nutfield her house was known as a wildlife sanctuary and anyone with an injured animal would turn up on her doorstep. Her daughter even Sarah found a letter from the hospital warning Ali that bringing a snake into work was an offence...

Most recently, before her illness took over, we enjoyed getting to know Ali though her presence at Messy Church and the WOW coffee mornings. She was direct and honest, and loved a good joke. We shall miss her very much.

Judith Calver

Turn to page 15 to read a poem written by Ali

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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Centenary Hall has reopened for organised sport and educational dancing. It had been hoped that more of the regular groups would reconvene but with the introduction of the group of six restriction this is not possible for the time being. The Parish Clerk is now working normally on a full-time basis; however, I would ask you all to make appointments to visit to avoid overcrowding. We have purchased machinery to spray antiseptic on a regular basis.

Earlier last month, following negotiation with both Tandridge District Council and the developer of the site at 158 Redehall Road it was agreed that it would be named 'Harts Mead' in Peter's memory. Additionally the council have recently purchased a commemorative bench seat which we hope will soon be in position in the Queen Elizabeth II playing field close to where Peter lived.

No pub in the village! Why not visit our licensed facility 'The Wheelers Lane Bistro' and enjoy a freshly cooked meal or simply have a drink. At present this is operating under cover in the rose garden at the hall but steps will be taken to move into the meeting area when the weather changes.

As reported last month we had hoped to open the proposed day care centre 'The Gingerbread House' in early September however our Offsted Application has proved to have taken a lot longer to be approved than originally anticipated. It is hoped that we will be in a position to open this important facility in the near future. We already have applications for acceptance. If you would like more details and to register please contact the centre on 07546 376148.

Unfortunately, due to the Covid-19 Lockdown, the Spring/Summer Yarn Bomb community project was unable to take place. We are so pleased to say that a new socially distanced winter project can now take place. All are welcome and you will be provided with a specific pattern to follow and some yarn if needed. Participants can work from the safety of their own home and simply drop off the completed work at the Parish Council office in the Centenary Hall or at Angela's workshop; which she has recently moved to Horley. Angela is now offering tuition in groups of no more than 3 people from her studio within Orchid Fashions, 93-95 Victoria Road. The classes last for two hours and only cost £5 per hour. Please contact her on angelascrochet.andmore@gmail.com or 07711 954 623 if you would like to join the Winter Yarn Bomb or book some classes.

Please continue to support and observe government advice. Stay aware, observe social distancing, stay safe.

Ian Wates, Chair, Burstow Parish Council

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LOOKING BACK

Remember those pretty handkerchiefs
We always loved to receive?
Now it's just a tissue
To use when we want to sneeze.

Remember those nylon stockings
With the seam you had to get straight?
They were really treasured
And kept for that special date.

I remember my white Maxted blouse
Worn with my Barathea skirt.
The boys had spear point or cut away.
That was the collar on their Ben Sherman shirt.

Our make-up was kept very simple
We didn't need too much stuff.
Lipstick, some rouge and some powder
We found that was quite enough.

The hairstyles were kept neat and tidy;
Amami night was once a week.
We curled, we tonged, we straightened out.
We all had our own technique.

Looking back to my many boyfriends,
They always looked smart and clean.
With their Birdseye suits and their crêpe-soled shoes
Topped with a little Brylcream.

Ballroom dancing was our thing
That's what we looked forward to.
It could be three or four times a week.
What else would you want to do?

We went to the cinema once a week
Depending on what was showing.
A good love story or a musical.
Or we'd go sometimes not knowing!

I remember something vividly
There was no fear of travelling alone.
On the tram, the trolley bus or the Tube
You would always get safely home.

June Dunn

(This is the last poem June
wrote, in June 2020)

MEMORIES OF JUNE

(June's neighbour, Heather Hagel, remembers poet June with a poem!)

Ed and June moved to number eight,
A lovely couple, in fact first rate.
Ed kept the garden spick and span
June in the kitchen with pots and pans.

Our boys went off to school each day,
quite often June waved them
on their way.
She liked watch the children play,
To see them happy made her day.

June was a dab hand
with a needle and thread,
She made lots of garments
it has to be said.
Jumpers, skirts, scarfs and socks,
with so many Grandchildren
her skills were needed lots.

There was often a visitor
or maybe two,
coffee and cake, you took a pew.

A warm welcome was always found,
June was always obliging, in fact as
sound as a pound

The garden was kept exactly
to their taste,
dandelions and weeds had no place.
Flowers bloomed, hedges kept neat,
Soil dug over, borders looking a treat.

June enjoyed her mornings at WOW,
her amazing poetry deserved a bow.
We all loved her to entertain us,
Lots of laughs each week, it was a must.

June will be missed by all of us,
we will never forget her,
she never made a fuss.
So jolly and cheerful and
as positive as can be,
Rest in Peace June, until we meet again,
we will see.

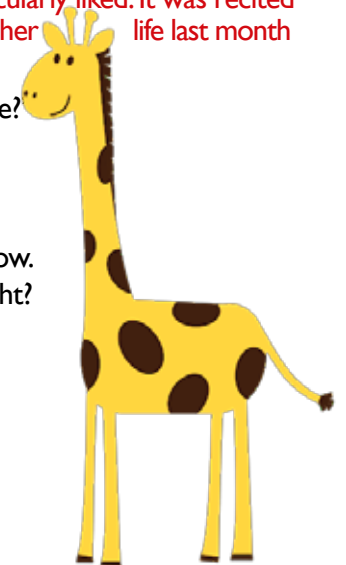
THE GIRAFFE AND THE SNAIL

Ali Lee also wrote poems. This one is one she particularly liked. It was recited
by her granddaughters at the online celebration of her life last month

"Hello," said the snail, "what can you see,
with your head sticking out from the top of that tree?
But try as he might, the giraffe looking down,
couldn't see who it was down there on the ground.
"It's me," said the snail, "I live here below,
So please don't move on, there are things I must know.
Can you touch the stars when they come out at night?
Please stay for a chat," said the snail, so polite.
I'll tarry awhile thought the lofty giraffe,
This poor lowly creature may give me a laugh.



"Ask me more, little snail."
Then he heard a loud crunch.
The hedgehog had eaten poor snail
for his lunch.



News from the 1st Burstow Scouts

Since our last update the Scout Group has had no meetings as it was the Summer Holidays. However, individual members continued their Scouting by completing challenges and badges. These included Oliver building a Bug Hotel in Scotland (right) and Edward completing Stage 1 of the Emergency Aid Badge. Ella-Louise completed her Mechanics Badge under the guidance of her uncle and assessed by her Grandad (an ex Scouter). This included her changing a tyre and servicing her mum's car including changing the front brakes (below)! She assures me that she is going to service her mum's car from now on! Calvin and Shaun took part in Roar 2020,



the Surrey County Scouts camp at home. They camped inside as a storm was due, although never arrived. They made gliders for their teddy bears, made rope and a Lego camp. I look forward to awarding more badges for the achievements of the young people.

The Autumn term started with two very special Zoom meetings. We hope these are the last for a while! The first was by Hayley from the Forensic Experience., who was a Forensic Investigator with the Metropolitan Police for 14 years. She told us about her work and how to collect evidence



from crime scenes. We learnt that every person has unique finger prints from birth, including identical twins, who share the same DNA. She sent us a chart to help us decode our fingerprints using the nine patterns. The second Zoom meeting was with Conrad Burdekin, a children's writer and poet. He used to live in Africa and told us the tale of the tortoise and the birds. We helped tell the story by making suggestions. We learnt a lot and had great fun at both meetings.

At time of writing we are preparing to return safely to face-to-face Scouting, so the Beaver, Cub and Scout Leaders have written a comprehensive Covid risk assessment to ensure a safe return for all. Following guidance from the National Youth Agency and the Scout Association the number attending any meeting will be limited and all meetings will be socially distanced and held outside as much as possible. The first meetings will all be based on activities we can do within two metres and two metres apart from each other!

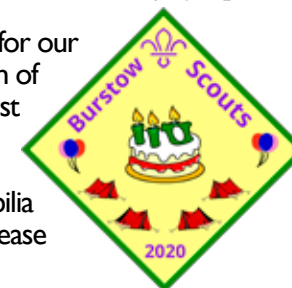
This year we have been a local cause with the Co-Op to raise money towards improving the Scout Grounds, especially the large holes in the car park surface. One weekend in September, a small digger was hired and the ground prepared for a concrete pad to be laid in the entrance of the Car Park. This will provide



a good surface for outside meetings if the field is too soft and wet. We had a great team of volunteers completing the groundworks required for the concrete to be laid, including Max, John, Stephen, David, Liz, Heather, Andy, Ella-Louise and, of course,

me. We are also improving the external lighting to allow us to meet safely outside this Autumn. We still have many jobs around the grounds to be completed and always welcome willing volunteers. [Since Rowenna wrote, the grounds of the Scout Hut were broken in to and an attempt was made to take the mini digger. Our commiserations to the Scout group who have been working so hard on this project]

We have designed, using ideas from a competition held for our members, a 110th Birthday Badge. We have a limited run of 200. If you would like one, each badge is £2 including post and packaging. To order, and for payment details, please email gsl@burstowscouts.org or call 01342 718862. If you used to be a member and have any stories or memorabilia which you would like to share with the Scout Group, please be contact with us.



If you want more details, including joining or volunteering with the Scout Group, or you are able to provide a one off activity or skill session please email gsl@burstowscouts.org or call 01342 718862

Rowenna Woodward BEM

NEWS FROM CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

One of the unexpected joys of the last few months for many of us has been spending more time with nature. I was pleased therefore to put together a 'Green-tember' this year – to focus on environment issues for the whole month. Thank you so much to those of you who took part in the 'The Time is Now' Climate Change campaign online event, joined me for a Q&A with Zac Goldsmith, Minister for the Environment on 28 September, or helped litter-pick in Caterham and Horley. I was also delighted to visit the exceptional British Wildlife Centre and Lingfield Nature Reserves and will continue to press Natural England to extend our Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty in Surrey Hills.

As we move into autumn, I know some of you will be anxious about a second wave of COVID. I continue to monitor this carefully and I am in regular contact with Ministers about testing capacity in Surrey.

I also am continuing my work with Crispin Blunt MP and local leaders on our Local Economic Taskforce to create a coordinated response to what is likely to be a challenging year ahead for the local economy. This month we have worked with the LEP to gain additional funding of £1.7m to the East of Surrey. We are pressing Ministers for additional jobs transition support for aviation

workers in and around Gatwick and for a youth Job Centre to prevent long-term youth unemployment. Crispin and I have also lobbied the Secretary of State for Education to increase capacity for advanced technological placements at East Surrey College.

I also am continuing to press the case of issues particular to Smallfield and Burstow. In particular I have raised the serious and concerning issue of flooding in Smallfield with the Chief Executive of the Environment Agency. I have also launched a survey of HGV use in Burstow, Smallfield, Horne and Outwood. I look forward to reporting back on these discussions in due course.

Lastly in Westminster, I continue to support the Chancellor in my role as Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Treasury. I was also delighted to be recently appointed to the Policy Exchange Commission on the Indo-Pacific, chaired by former Canadian PM Stephen Harper and charged with creating a new strategic blueprint for the UK's relations with the fastest growing region in the world.

If you need help, please contact me at: claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk; or call 0207 219 5972. Do please also check out my Facebook Page (@claire4eastsurrey) for the latest updates

Claire Coutinho MP

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Prior to the pandemic, I had been holding travel surgeries with a plan to visit each town and village across East Surrey. As lockdown restrictions relax I am visiting local businesses as they start to reopen.

I also hold regular MP surgeries by telephone if you need any help please do email or call me. Thank you all for your kindness, your community spirit and your patience through this time.

Claire

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[@parliament.uk](mailto:claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk)
[claire4eastsurrey](https://www.facebook.com/claire4eastsurrey)
[ClaireCoutinho](https://www.instagram.com/ClaireCoutinho)

Powered by Tim Hall, a member of the East Surrey Council. 0207 219 5972

SMALLFIELD COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

In the year ended December 2019 your Speedwatch team reported to Surrey Police:

2,960 offenders

Amongst these were:

259 2nd time offenders and 43 3rd time offenders

The Team comprises 16 regular police-trained community members who are able to commit to an hour or more a month at various approved locations around the village.

We ARE making a difference.

So much more could be achieved with more members.

Should you wish to join the team please contact the Parish Clerk, Jeannie Ryan (01342 841880, burstowparishcouncil@gmail.com)

Visit: http://www.burstowparishcouncil.org.uk/community_speed_watch.asp

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AVIATION GROUP

In early September the Centenary Hall re-opened with restrictive measures, including social distancing but events have overtaken it as indoor and outdoor gatherings of more than six people have now been banned. In any case, the Organisers Group felt that it was not sensible to restart our meetings until the virus situation has eased. I

have been in touch with the majority of the speakers who would have provided our evenings and they are happy to come to us at a later date.

This Summer and Autumn sees the 80th Anniversary of the Battle of Britain, mainly fought in the skies of Southern England at a time when Britain and the Dominions stood alone for 18 months. It was the gallant Hurricane and Spitfire pilots that saved the day against superior German numbers, thanks to radar, the Royal Observer Corps and an integrated control and command network that generally got our fighters to the right place to intercept the Luftwaffe.

Sadly RJ Mitchell (*below*) who led the Spitfire design team at Supermarine died of cancer in June 1937 at the age of 42, not long after witnessing the Spitfire's first flight in March 1936 at Eastleigh, now Southampton Airport. His story is told in the 1942 film 'The First of the Few' starring, produced and directed by Leslie Howard, which is occasionally shown on TV. Ironically Howard lost his life in June 1943 when, returning from a trip to Portugal to promote the British cause, the BOAC DC3 he was flying on was shot down over the Bay of Biscay by German fighters. If I had my way Mitchell would be commemorated on the spare plinth in Trafalgar Square.



Attention very much focuses on the iconic Spitfire but in reality it was the more numerous and less glamorous Hurricane Squadrons that were the most successful, including the famous 303 Polish Squadron. In 1944 just prior to D Day, they were based at the temporary airfield on Bones Lane in Horne, and their watering hole was the Jolly Farmers pub. At first the locals did not mix with these foreigners who spoke 'funny' but on the evening of D-Day it was a matter of "what did you see, how many Germans did you shoot down – have a pint!"

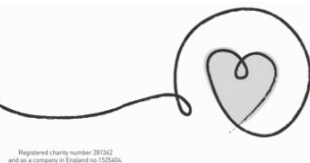
Continued overleaf

The Hurricane was a simple aircraft to repair as it was very much 1920/early 30s technology compared with the more sophisticated (and expensive) Spitfire which was continually developed and used throughout the war, ending up with an engine of more than double the horsepower it had started with. But the Hurricane wasn't without its faults, one of which was that when hit by enemy gunfire it could result in the pilot receiving horrendous burns.

The McIndoe Unit at the Royal Victoria Hospital in East Grinstead pioneered the use of plastic surgery and years ago our Group had an evening talk from one of the patients, who had appeared in the Film 'Battle of Britain'. It was good to see that during the summer, the NHSTribute Spitfire made a flypast over many of the Covid-19 hospitals. It also included the Royal Vic before heading for Vera Lynn's home in Ditchling, fortunately before her passing.

John Thorpe

IN AID OF
ST CATHERINE'S
HOSPICE



Thank you for the fantastic support you have given our Outwood stall over the summer months. This has raised over £3000! Sadly, due to the latest government restrictions we will not be running the stall for the foreseeable future.

'At Home Quiz & Supper Night' **Saturday 14 November**

A delicious two-course meal from COOK (menu sent out the week before), ready to pop into the oven and delivered to your door! Online fun quiz evening starting at 5pm and finishing with an interactive round after supper.

Tickets: £15 per head or £20 to include £5 worth of raffle tickets.

Please help us raise much needed funds for the hospice while enjoying a tasty supper and lighthearted quiz.

For tickets or more information email Bernie at berniethomson@btinternet.com.

At time of going to press, South Nutfield Choral Society was planning to resume rehearsals on Mondays, 8-10pm at Christ Church*, Kings Cross Lane, South Nutfield. RH1 5NG. New singers welcome, no experience needed, no audition. Under 25s go free for first term. Further information from: Pat Denchfield on 07841 827496, email sncscontact@gmail.com or see the 'join us' page at www.southnutfieldchoralsociety.org.uk

*Covid-secure, risk-assessed under DCMS guidelines for community activities.

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BURSTOW AND SMALLFIELD WOMENS INSTITUTE

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INSPIRING WOMEN

The members of Burstow and Smallfield WI held a meeting on 8 of September – and had hoped to arrange subsequent meetings, including the AGM and Christmas celebrations. However the 'Rule of Six' has now been put in place and that means that all our meetings are curtailed for the foreseeable future.

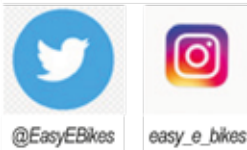
During the summer the WI held a meeting in the park on Plough Road – another was planned but in the end was cancelled due to the record-breaking high temperature – that's a first! – but I'm sure with global warming it won't be the last.

Let's just keep everyone safe – and hopefully this will pass and there will be a vaccine soon. 2020 will be a year to remember for all the wrong reasons – the numbers of people lost and the disruption to normal life, and in the case of the WI, our 100th Birthday had to go unmarked and the cancelling of the VE Day Commemoration meant that we were unable to run the Tea and Cake tent.

Alison Brown

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BURSTOW Mothers' UNION

MOTHERS' UNION Christian care for families

Due to the lockdown like everyone else we have been unable to meet since February. However we did manage to get together for our annual Wave of Prayer service at the end of August when six members met in Burstow Church. The Wave of Prayer is held every year when all branches of Mother's Union around the world hold the same service on the same day – although obviously at different times! This means that the same prayers are going around the globe as if it were a wave. This year our prayers were for branches in Nigeria, Zimbabwe, Kenya, North India, Oxford diocese, and Southwark diocese – of which we are members.

We had hoped to start our usual meetings again in September, even if we were in a garden or socially distanced in a home but unfortunately the new restrictions have put a stop to that for a while. When we can meet again I will let you know via Burstow News. We normally meet on the third Tuesday of the month, usually in a member's house starting the meeting at 2pm.

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Continued from page 9

had thought how different it would now be to manage running a new building with three rooms to let, the requirement to resource the kitchen, furniture to buy, contracts to be set for the building apart from insurance. How were we going to start from scratch to have a list of hire charges and who was going to be in charge of the letting?

I am afraid we caused the clerk nearly to have fits as Mike Keenan and I went about purchasing equipment for the kitchen, setting some contracts that were necessary for the building and I also produced the first list of letting prices for each of the rooms. Mike managed to obtain a large amount of furniture from the Philips building canteen on the A23 at Salfords that was shutting down and we just presented the bills to the clerk after the event. Most of this was done without a meeting agreeing to it but it was necessary to move quickly to start having a functioning and financial basis for the future of Centenary Hall. This situation would not pertain today as we now have a full-time clerk and, at that time, we only had a part-time one, mainly for meetings and keeping accounts. Although we now had a new part-time Parish Clerk in Betty Joyce, she carried out the similar functions of her predecessor, Ray Edwards, so we engaged Joyce Davies as a volunteer to look after the room bookings before she became a Parish Councillor. Later, we appointed a clerk with longer hours to perform these duties and Jeannie Ryan is the latest of these having been the Parish Clerk since 2006. It would now be impossible to operate without her vast input.

Several of us would become Chairman of the Parish Council over the early years, including myself and Mike Keenan, before moving on to District Council duties or pastures new. Since those early years there have been several changes of Councillors and Chairmen but I think it is fair to say that the biggest influence that any Chairman has made over the years would be Liz Cutter who served for many years until quite recently. During her time we saw the development of the QE2 Park in Broadbridge Lane, successful Smallfield summer parties run over a number of years, ably assisted by many local volunteers; and affordable houses being built on part of the Copthorne Bank allotment site. One could list many other achievements whilst Liz was chairman.

It is good to see how well the hall is thriving today and the new building arrangements, recently completed, have provided an added refinement to the building we moved into in 1995 so may it continue to thrive for a further 25 years – and many more to come.



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Wedding

24 July

Dorothy Leavers and David Leavers

Funerals

1 September

June Dunn, aged 87

4 September

Reginald Seabrook, aged 95

16 September

David Leavers, aged 74

St Mary the Virgin, Horne

Wedding

25 August

Andy Danneels and Lucy Stewart

Funeral

6 August

Derek William Watkinson, aged 88

17 September

William (Billy) Creasey, aged 73

St John the Baptist, Outwood

Funeral

21 August

Margaret Mary Sharp, aged 84

SMALLFIELD EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."*

Sunday services:

- Sunday morning worship, 4 October at 11 am
- Sunday morning worship, 11 October at 11 am
- Sunday morning worship, 18 October at 11 am (with communion)
- Sunday morning worship, 25 October at 11 am

Sunday School:

Sundays from 11 am to noon

Church Contacts:

Deacon

Rosemary Foster

01342 843630

Elder

Leslie Totten

01342 844795

Church Secretary

Jean Totten

01342 844795

SOME LOCAL SERVICES

Smallfield Surgery, Wheelers Lane 01342 843822

Website: www.smallfieldsurgery.nhs.uk

Smallfield Pharmacy, 2 Redehall Road 01342 844424

Email: info@smallfieldpharmacy.co.uk

Burstow Primary School, Wheelers Lane 01342 842010

Burstow Parish Council

■ Parish Clerk: Jeannie Ryan (Centenary Hall, Wheelers Lane)

Email: burstowparishcouncil@gmail.com or ring 01342 841880

Office core hours: 9.30am-2.00pm weekdays during school term

Website: www.burstowparishcouncil.org.uk

Tandridge District Council 01823 722000

Tandridge District Councillors

■ Kevin Bourne (07963 833154; email: Cllr.kevin.bourne@tandridge.gov.uk)

■ Harry Fitzgerald (01342 832475; email: cllr.harry.fitzgerald@tandridge.gov.uk)

■ Colin White (email: Cllr.Colin.White@tandridge.gov.uk)

Surrey County Councillor

■ Lesley Steeds (07973 872 614; email: lesley.steeds@surreycc.gov.uk)

Police contacts:

■ In an emergency – dial 999

■ If not an emergency – dial 101 for Surrey Police

Crime Stoppers (independent anonymous phone line): 0800 555111

Tandridge Safer Neighbourhood Team

email: tandridge@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Neighbourhood Specialist Officer

■ PC Kevin Stimson (tel: 101 or mobile 07720 061363;

email: kevin.stimson@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

Neighbourhood Police Smallfield, Burstow, Horne and Outwood

■ PCSO Conrad Cheeseman (tel: 101; email: Cheeseman12437@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

■ PCSO Stuart Wren (tel: 101 or mobile 07720 050768; email: stuart.wren@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

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A TURNING POINT

Sue Wates

Whether you are a gardener, allotmenteer or farmer,
Once past the August turning point life seems a little calmer,
We watered, weeded, nurtured, hoped our efforts would be blessed,
Now it's time to feed depleted earth that's done for us its best,
We've enjoyed a glorious floral palette, each bud a magical store,
And cherished the prize of fruit and veg whether just one carrot or more.
August seems a turning point to new season with autumnal glow,
In our gardens we uproot and plan what next year we will grow,
Birds that hatched and fledged in spring join their parents on the wire,
Some hunker down to winter here some migrate before weather dire,
August highs of thirty six have mellowed to comfortable warm,
Put away our shorts and flip-flops, cosier clothing becomes the norm,
Daylight hours diminish with darker mornings and longer nights,
Thoughts of cosy relaxing with beverage of choice on the sofa reunite,
But before we put our feet up there are crops to gather and store,
Fruit and vegetables to be frozen and pickled and bubbling jams galore,
Instructions and recipes followed, time spent carefully weighing and stirring,
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