

SMALLFIELD *and* BURSTOW PARISH NEWS

40p

APRIL 2021



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 Wheelers Lane, opposite Burstow Primary School

Your Village Magazine

Parish Church of St Bartholomew, Burstow

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RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

There's a definite sense that spring is in the air – the daffodils and other spring flowers are emerging from the soil, the leaf buds are swelling on the tree branches, and the earlier dawns and later sunsets are lengthening the days. After the cold and dark of winter, signs of new life are beginning to emerge everywhere. The sights, sounds and smells of spring bring us hope and cheer. And goodness only knows we need it after the long lockdown winter we've just been through.

The official start of Spring was 20 March this year, the vernal equinox, the time of year when the days are of equal length to the nights as the northern hemisphere tilts back towards the sun. And for those of us who live in the northern hemisphere (unlike my daughter in Australia!) spring also sees the festival of Easter, Easter Day being 4 April this year. The word Easter (and the associated word East) is derived from an Old Germanic word for dawn and for Christians from the earliest days of the church, the new dawn and the rising spring sun have symbolised the resurrected Christ and the new life that Easter speaks of. That's why we usually have a dawn service on Outwood Common on Easter Day. Outside services are only permitted in churchyards at the moment so this Easter we will have a short service to celebrate Easter in the churchyard of St Mary's, Horne, not at dawn but at 10am. All are welcome but please wear a mask even though we are outside – better to be on the safe side.

Our return to our usual church services is a gradual process, as is our national emerging out of lockdown. So too is the emergence of new life at spring a gradual process. I wrote in a previous spring magazine letter a few years back about my childhood tortoise, Sleepy, and how I remembered preparing him for hibernation, his winter lockdown, around November and then waiting with excitement for the first sounds of life when he would wake up around March and scrape his claws on the box. He would slowly stretch himself out, his legs and neck gradually lengthening as he woke up. And we, like my tortoise and the rest of nature, are taking our tentative steps out of lockdown, emerging from our homes and bubbles, figuratively sniffing the air for that smell of spring and new life.

And the first disciples' awareness of Jesus' resurrection was a gradual process

too. After Jesus' death they were a dispirited bunch with no idea what the future held. In all four Gospels 'fear' or 'being afraid' is mentioned at some point during the accounts of the first Easter and in John's Gospel we read that the disciples had locked themselves away out of fear of persecution. A first century lockdown as it were. But, we read, into their lockdown on that first Easter Day came Jesus saying Peace be with you as he breathed the Holy Spirit upon them.

I love that image of Jesus breathing the peace of the Spirit on his anxious disciples. In many ways our celebration of Easter is more muted this year, in lockdown three, but there is also something gentle about a muted Easter and I would like to gently wish you a happy and peaceful Easter with the words of the Gaelic Blessing, imagining the risen Christ breathing his peace on to you and into your home:

*Deep peace of the running wave to you.
 Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
 Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
 Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
 Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
 Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
 Deep peace of Christ,
 Of Christ, the light of the world to you.
 Deep peace of Christ to you.*

With love and prayers for a joyful Easter

Nicholas

Nicholas.calver@btinternet.com

CHURCH SERVICES in Burstow, Horne and Outwood ONLINE AND AT EASTER

Every week there is an online church service on the church website (www.windmillchurches.co.uk) or on CD for those who request it. On **Easter Day**, as well as an online service, there will also be a service of Said Holy Communion at 8am at St Mary's, Horne and a short Outdoor Celebration of Easter at 10am in St Mary's churchyard (although outside, masks should still be worn). The service will include the distribution of Holy Communion in one kind (wafers, not wine) which will have been consecrated at the 8am service that morning, as well as the singing of Easter hymns by the music group, though the congregation is still not allowed to join in, even outside.

From the Sunday after Easter, 11 April, we will recommence playing recordings of the online services in the church at 9.30am in St Bartholomew, Burstow, 10am in St Mary the Virgin, Horne and 11am in St John the Baptist, Outwood every Sunday.

YOUR SMALLFIELD AND BURSTOW PARISH NEWS

Welcome to the April issue of the Parish News!

As we embrace the glimmers of hope all around us – the successful local vaccination programme and the wonderful signs of spring (see pages 16 and 17) – we also need to be aware of increasing attempts by scammers to intrude on our lives. Read one person's story on page 7 and note what some major companies would definitely **not** be ringing you about.

I write this, on the National Day of Reflection on which we have marked one year since the first lockdown. In that time, those delivering your magazines, or putting them out in their shops, have kept calm and carried on to make sure you have received every issue. Now that things are beginning to ease a bit, it will be time to collect your magazine subscriptions if you receive the magazine in this way. We have kept costs the same, which means a great value £4 for last year, and again for this (April 2021 to March 2022). If you prefer, you can put your subscription through the door of the Rectory at 5 The Acorns, opposite the shops.

Please also take time to look at the advertisements in every issue. The support of local businesses helps us keep costs down and it is good to support them in return, particularly after such a hard year.

Judith Calver

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IS IT A SCAM? HOW CAN I TELL?

We are bombarded every day by more and more instances of scams and attempted scams. So what is the truth behind them and, the question we all need to ask, could it happen to me?

One Smallfield resident recently fell victim to a scam. This is their story:

My phone rang one day and the caller said that they were from BT and that someone was trying to hack into my internet router. They were very convincing because they were able to tell me its serial number. When I asked whether it was a scam they 'reassured' me that it wasn't because they said that only they and I would know that number. I believed them.

I was told to leave my mobile phone plugged in and switched on permanently. I had to turn off my computer and iPad but keep my landline phone on all the time and on speakerphone. I don't know how but they were accessing my mobile remotely and sometimes would show me maps on it to prove that they were tracking the supposed hackers and that they had tracked one down to America.

They said that it would take a few days but that I should carry on in this way and

Continued on page 9



If you get a call supposedly from BT, like the person above, remember this advice from BT: **'Scammers will always make it sound urgent, whereas a genuine caller will understand if you're uncomfortable with taking the call further.'** We'll never be forceful, and we'll understand any security concerns. We'll tell you to call us back once you're ready.

If you receive:

- a recorded message saying your service will be disconnected if you don't continue to the call, this is a scam. Put the phone down.
- an automated message telling you to press options on your phone to contact us, you'll be put directly through to a scammer.
- a phone call that you weren't expecting asking you to disclose personal information, put the phone down.
- a call from someone claiming to be from BT and you're unsure whether it's genuine, put the phone down.

BT will never call you to threaten to disconnect your service unless you make a payment immediately. Nor will they ring to say there is a problem with your computer, ask for payment details over email or tell you your broadband has been hacked.

Is this a scam?



The Royal Mail would like to emphasise that a lot of calls or text messages that purport to come from them, are in fact scams. they say:


Please don't click on any links and be vigilant if you receive a communication you aren't sure about

Messages such as these are scams:


- Your package could not be delivered on 07/12/2020 (or any date).
- You have missed a package delivery from HMRC Revenue & Customs
- Your package could not be delivered as no custom duty has been paid.

Do not click on any links or enter any details as they will take you to a scam site fraudulently asking for payment.


Smallfield Surgery advises everyone to stay alert as there have been continued reports of scams in relation to the COVID vaccination process. Please remember that the NHS will never arrive unexpectedly on your doorstep, or ask for bank details or proof of ID. **You will never be asked to pay for your vaccine – this is free for everyone on the NHS.**




COVID-19 VACCINE FACT CHECK



The COVID-19 vaccine will always be available free of charge.



The NHS will never ask you to share bank details to confirm your identity.



A lot of phone calls claim to come from Amazon. The company advises some things you can look out for if you are unsure:

- Amazon will never ask for payment or offer you a refund you do not expect.
- Amazon will never ask you to make a payment outside its website (eg via bank transfer, emailing credit card details, sharing gift card details over the phone, etc.)
- Amazon will never ask you for remote access to your device eg by asking you to install an app.

In brief they emphasise: **Do not share any personal information, and disconnect the call immediately.**

Continued from page 7

not tell anyone what was going on so that the 'scammers' wouldn't realise we were on to them.

I was never asked for my bank or card details but was told not to use my Debit Card – afterwards I realised that this was so that I wouldn't find out that my account had been emptied and that my credit card had also had payments made on it. Obviously now I can see that the secrecy was also so that they could have free access to my accounts without anyone realising what was going on.

But for ten days I was sucked in to their story. I live on my own and because 'they' had said they were going to deliver a new router, I slept downstairs with my dog as I was so anxious about when they might turn up. Eventually, I explained to a friend what had been happening. They were anxious and checked with another friend who is quite computer savvy, who said they were sure it must be a scam.

This was a turning point and a couple of friends came round to help. One sat me in their car while I rang the Fraud Department at my bank as I didn't dare either use my home phone or ring from my house. The other friend kept watch on the phones and told the scammers they couldn't speak to me as they rang a couple of times just when I was in the car.

I was very fortunate that my bank believed it was not my fault and my money was refunded very quickly. I found out that the bank had sent me messages to query transactions on my account that seemed dodgy but these were intercepted and I didn't receive them. The police were very supportive and gave me a crime number and I called in Matthew from Maztech who was able to print off all the messages I'd received to show the police and set everything up for me again.

I have suffered with mental health problems in the past and this living nightmare, first being sucked into the instructions and secrecy and then worrying about whether I'd get my money back, did me no good at all. I was left very shaken and hesitant about ever answering the phone. Fortunately, it worked out in the end. But it happened to me and it could happen to you.

The moral of this story is...

- If someone contacts you, even from a well-known national company, but asks for secrecy, or for you to do something strange, put the phone down and don't respond to their messages
- Check on the examples, left, of what scammers may try to tell you
- If you live alone and are in doubt, put the phone down and don't click on any links in a message but ask a friend or relative for advice. Someone outside the situation will have a much clearer view of what is going on.

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SPRINGTIME ON THE FARM

In his latest update from Broadlands Farm, Ian McCubbine talks about the importance of spring – and of keeping control of dogs

Spring is probably the most crucial season on the farm; get it wrong at this point and the rest of the year could be spent chasing our tails. At Broadlands we aim to start our beef suckler cows calving in late January. It's a little earlier than most people but we feel this gives us more time to nurture the newborns and the mums, safe and warm in the barns. Calving indoors gives us the opportunity to monitor the calving cows and intervene if needed. It also makes it easier for us to ear-tag (every animal must, by law, have two official ear-tags), register (every calf has its own unique passport) and carry out routine health checks and vaccinations. This ensures that at turnout time, both cow and calf are at optimal health to achieve peak performance during the summer.

We also start field work at this time of year, preparing the ground and crops for the productive months. We use our grass fields for grazing the animals, and for producing food for the long winter months, when our cattle are kept indoors. We hear a common misconception from trespassers: "It's only grass!" But grass is our crop – our harvest. It is probably the most expensive crop to grow and needs lots of input and care. We start by liming the fields, to ensure the pH is 6.5, for the best results. We then fertilise, usually with nitrogen, potassium and phosphate, harrow (scarify), and roll with a heavy roller. This levels the top, pushes any clods back in and pushes the plants back into the soil. If ground conditions allow, we often slit the soil to aerate it, provide top level drainage and let the worms work better.

This brings me back to the frustrations farmers have when people wander off footpaths, making new, muddy tracks and allowing dogs to defecate without picking it up and taking it home. In the last year, the countryside has seen a massive increase in people using the public footpath network, and I wonder how many know anything about the Countryside Code? We welcome most of you to our workplace and most of you are very respectful. However, some are not, and I hope this is just down to lack of understanding. A footpath is 1.5 metres wide and is for walking on. It is not 15 metres wide, or a launchpad for sticks and balls for dogs to retrieve (or not!). If a pregnant cow ingests grass contaminated by dog mess, it can become infected by a parasite called Neospora which can lead to abortion of the calf. If cows eat a discarded 'poo' bag, it can block their stomachs and again, lead to death. Please take your bags home. Remember to shut gates behind you and be aware that if there is livestock in the field, they will be interested in you. If they have young, they will be protective. If you have a dog, keep it on a lead when walking through the field, but if you do get chased, let it go! A dog can outrun a cow, but a human probably can't.

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It does appear that at last lockdowns and vaccination are perhaps gaining a foothold against Covid 19 and certainly our vaccination clinic has played its part with over 8,500 people having received their first dose by mid-March, slightly ahead of the original government targets and again I must express our gratitude to all the medics and volunteers who have given so much of their time selflessly to help us reach this goal. However, whether or not you have received your 'jab' I would urge you all to still take care and follow government guidelines. The clinic continues to function extremely smoothly although it has been necessary to adjust the operational hours on weekdays slightly to avoid clashing with the school drop off in mornings now that the students have returned.

Although I forewarned in February's magazine, of a substantial increase in the amount of precept charged by Burstow Parish Council, I was as shocked as I am sure you all were at the ratio shown on our tax demands of 68.7%. I would therefore like to clarify the monetary increase. Last year our precept was £73,370 or about £37.90 per band D property, a weekly cost of £0.73. Having increased the precept this year to £123,43 or about £63.76 a year a weekly cost of £1.23 an increase of £0.50 a week per band D property. This increase is caused principally by the problems raised by COVID-19, the loss of our main income from Hall lettings and potential car park construction costs.

I can now confirm that our annual meeting in May will be virtual and details will be published on our website, council noticeboards and Facebook nearer the time.

Attendance at our Ofsted approved Day Nursery for children between the ages of six months and five years 'The Gingerbread House' continues to increase, however we still have a few vacancies. Prospective parents wishing to view the excellent facilities and applications for acceptance can be obtained by contacting the nursery on 07546 376148.

I need to test the water. Following our recent seclusion and with the relaxation of guidelines there is a possibility of organising a village summer party to be held perhaps sometime in June. Events such as this take a considerable amount of organisation and I am therefore appealing for volunteers to assist in its production. Those interested and willing to give their time please forward your contact details to our Parish Clerk, Jeannie Ryan at Centenary Hall, by email to burstowparishcouncil@gmail.com or by phone 01342 841880

Please all continue to follow government guidelines to preserve our wellbeing, take care, stay safe

Ian Wates,
Chair, Burstow Parish Council

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GOING GREEN – HOW MUCH IS ENOUGH?

In the first of a new series, Lauma Kazusa looks at ways in which we can all make our lives more friendly on the environment

How green is green enough? And I don't mean the grass in the fields around us, but our lifestyles. Is there a minimum threshold or a minimum set of activities that I can do to announce proudly that I'm living green? If I change in my diet, cut down on food waste, recycle everything, change to energy-saving lightbulbs, and take my own shopping bags... is that enough? OK, if I cut down on plastic too and take my refillable bottle everywhere... will that do?

There is no magic list with minimum requirements. Yet, every little thing helps. Most importantly, whichever actions we choose, they need to work for us, or they just won't work in the long run. By now, most have heard about energy-saving gadgets, plastic packaging, electric vehicles, and many more exciting topics that we will explore further over the coming months.

But it is sometimes more complicated than we may think. Yes, plastic can be harmful to the environment, but so are many other materials if not disposed of correctly. Glass bottles or aluminium cans chucked out on the roadside are more lethal to small animals than plastic bottles. Why is that? Most plastic bottles have

Continued on page 24



Springtime signs of hope

Causes for celebration as flower buds burst open all around the village, and the 10,000 vaccination mark is passed at Centenary Hall



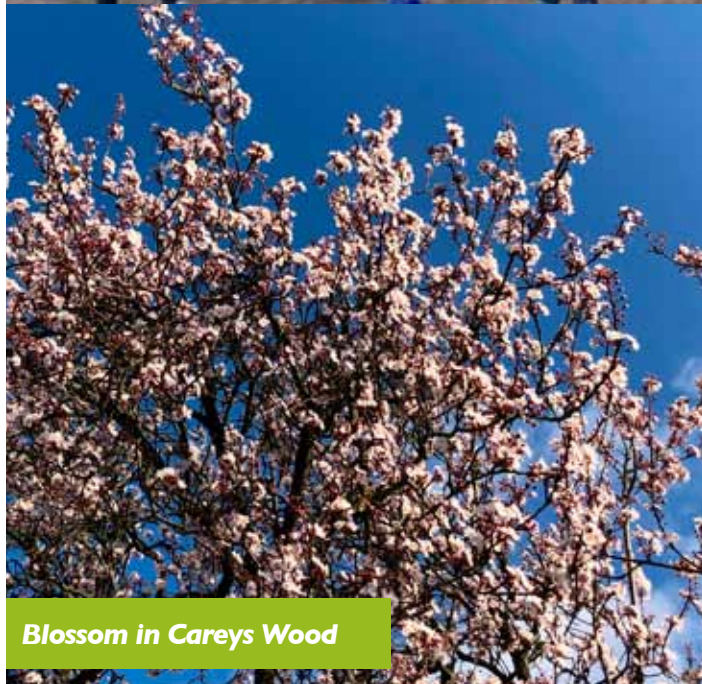
Celebrations as vaccinations pass 100,000 in the seven local sites, of which 10,000 have now taken place in Smallfield



Sheep in the sunshine on Dowlands Lane



Buds on Broadlands Lane



Blossom in Careys Wood



The army of volunteer Covid Marshals keep the vaccine appointments flowing smoothly



Daffodils in Charlotte Grove



Dr Vijayumar says it with cake



Blossom on Plough Road

News from the 1st Burstow Scouts

As lockdown has continued the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have met over Zoom.

The Scouts asked to meet during the February half term, as they enjoy their meetings so much. So to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, 1st Burstow Scout Group held a Pancake Competition. The evening was attended by members from all sections. During the meeting the Beavers, Cubs and Scouts mixed their pancake batter, and cooked pancakes. We had a competition to see who could flip their pancake the most in a minute. No one beat the World Record, which is held by Brad Jolly for 140 flips in one minute. However, Shaun flipped his pancake a magnificent 47 times to set the 1st Burstow Record. Will he retain his record in the future? We held a second competition for the most artistic, but still edible, pancakes. Jack



won this with his amazing lion and bear pancakes (left), a unanimous vote by all participants. Both Jack and Shaun were sent a special Pancake Day badge as a prize.

During half term, Jack worked on five Cub Badges: Artist, Book Reader, Home Help, Entertainer and Road Safety.

His Artist badge included making a Stone Age Hut and painting a landscape. His Home Help saw Jack learning to do the laundry, ironing, preparing a meal, and making his bed. I am sure this will make him very popular at home.

The Scout Group marked Founder's Day which marks the joint birthday of Lord and Lady Baden Powell, the founders of Scouting and Girl Guiding. We looked

at the Scout Group Census data for the last 20 years to see what it told us about our Scout Group and we talked about the national Census which took place in March and how the data is used to help our communities. Robin West, who was a member of the Scout

Group in the 1950s and 60s, had been in



Winners of First Aid competition at Broadstone Warren Scout camp near Forest Row, 1961

contact with me to find out what had happened to 7th Horley (Burstow) since he was a member. I had sent him some information and one of our new Birthday Badges. In return Robin sent photographs of his time as a Cub and Scout (see bottom and bottom left). If anyone knew Robin, or has been a member of our Scout Group in the past, we would love to hear from you.

We invested Timi as a Beaver Scout on Founder's Day. Timi joined the Beaver Colony before Christmas and has only met us on Zoom! This makes him our first completely Virtual Beaver Scout. Jack was invested as a Cub, after moving up from Beavers in January.



We have continued to investigate how people overcome their disabilities. We had a lovely evening with Sally and Don, from the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Don told us all about how the charity chooses and trains puppies to become good Guide Dogs. Sally, who is severely sight impaired, shared her story and how having a Guide Dog has improved her life. We also found out that Guide Dogs are allowed to go almost everywhere with their owner except the zoo, as this would stress both zoo animals and the Guide Dog.

We were disappointed that again we were unable to attend the Church for Mothering Sunday due to lockdown. However Samantha Steggles, Panda, our Beaver Leader and John Hatherill, one of our Scouts, did readings for the online Mothering Sunday service (<https://www.windmillchurches.co.uk/mothering-sunday>).



7th Horley Burstow summer Scout camp, 1960

During our Zoom meetings the young people have made decorative drinks coasters and star keyrings as gifts for Mother's Day (see above).

After Easter we plan to return to face to face Scouting for all Sections again.

Rowenna Woodward BEM

Claire Coutinho MP

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
FOR EAST SURREY

Prior to the pandemic, I had been holding regular surgeries, with a plan to visit each town and village across East Surrey. Because of the current situation, I am holding remote surgeries by telephone, so if you need any help please don't hesitate to email or call me. I am also visiting local businesses in a Covid-secure way, and I am continuing my work with the East of Surrey Local Economic Taskforce that I set up to support the local economy. Thank you all for your patience and community spirit throughout this time.

Claire



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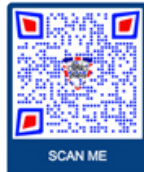
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NEWS FROM CLAIRE COUTINHO MP

In her latest regular update for the Parish News, our local MP outlines what she has been involved in recently

As we mark the one-year anniversary of Covid-19 being declared a pandemic, I know the disruption the virus continues to cause is becoming increasingly tough to take. I hope the Prime Minister's four-step plan out of lockdown provided a welcome degree of certainty and hope for residents and businesses across East Surrey that we won't be living under these restrictions for much longer. The first step saw the reopening of our schools on 8 March, and I would just like to pay tribute to pupils and staff at all our local schools for making it as smooth a process as possible. The second step in the roadmap will see shops, hairdressers, gyms and outdoor hospitality reopening from 12 April. The third step will see most social contact rules lifted, as well as limited mixing indoors, from 17 May. The Government hopes that we will then see the end of all legal limits on social contact from 21 June.

Decisions on whether we can move to these next steps on the dates above depend on four key tests. First, that the vaccine deployment programme continues successfully. Second, that the evidence shows vaccines are sufficiently effective in reducing hospitalisations and deaths. Third, that infection rates do not risk a surge in hospitalisations which would put unsustainable pressure on the NHS. Fourth, that our assessment of the risks is not fundamentally changed by new variants of Covid that cause concern.

At the time of writing this update on 11 March, we seem to be moving in very much the right direction. Britain has administered over 24 million vaccines, including more than 367,000 across Surrey Heartlands. Nationally, we are averaging almost 2.7 million doses a week, and 40 per cent of adults have now received their first dose. Indeed, we are now inviting people aged 56 to 59 to be vaccinated. This invite has been sent after more than eight in ten people aged 65 to 69 took up the offer of a jab. The latest data on vaccine efficacy also provides much cause for optimism. Both the Oxford and Pfizer vaccines have been found to reduce the likelihood of serious illness by 60 per cent after the first dose and reduce the likelihood of hospitalisation by 80 per cent after one dose.

As a Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Treasury, the Budget has been another key focus of mine over the past few weeks. I'm proud of the package of measures it contains, from extending furlough until the end of September, to two further self-employment grants and an extension to the scheme for those who became self-employed in 2019/20. For businesses, we are introducing further grants of up to £18,000, along with an extension of the business rates holiday and VAT cut. In

Continued on page 24

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AVIATION GROUP

As with most Groups in the village, still no change in the situation regarding meetings.

Few will have heard of Lady Lucy Houston who was a staunch supporter of Britain, a political activist and a woman who realised the importance of aviation. Born in 1857, the fourth daughter of a South London warehouseman, she became a professional dancer and at the age of 16 took up with a wealthy man twice her age. When he died in 1882 he left her a legacy of £6,000 a year (equivalent of £500,000 today). She then married twice into the wealthy aristocracy before her third and final marriage to Sir Robert Houston, an MP and wealthy shipping magnate. When he died 1926 he left his widow roughly £5.5 million making her England's second richest woman. Quite a life, her biography is a good read.



In 1931 the Government refused to fund Britain's entry in the prestigious Schneider Trophy Race for high speed seaplanes. Another victory, following our two previous victories, would result in permanent retention of the Trophy. Lady Houston donated £100,000 to Supermarine for the development of the S6 and its Rolls Royce engine. Britain won the race held at Lee-on-Solent and a week later the S6B broke the world air speed record at 407.5mph. Design lessons learnt by Supermarine went into the Spitfire and the engine led to the Rolls Royce Merlin used in the Hurricane, Spitfire, Lancaster and in the American Mustang.

By 1933 no one had ever flown over the 29,028ft summit of Everest and Lady Houston funded an expedition to fly over the Roof of the World using two modified open cockpit single Bristol engined Westland biplane bombers. To achieve this, the two crew needed oxygen systems, heated clothing and camera heating, these developments being vital in World War 2. The Gaumont British cameraman in one of the aircraft got some stunning film, (available on YouTube) which later helped the 1953 expedition that conquered Everest. Sadly she died



in December 1936 at the age of 79 so never knew of her contribution to victory in WW2. Thank goodness for a chorus girl like Lucy Houston.

John Thorpe

Continued from page 13

their caps still on, and nobody can become trapped inside the bottle. But we will talk about the litter another time.

If you want to start somewhere or if you already see yourself as an eco-champion, I would recommend you think about your consumption of everything. Consider how your day-to-day choices affect the world around us. New items require raw materials and energy to make them and subsequently contribute to climate change. Recycling is great, but it is not a 'get out of jail' card either.

It can feel overwhelming but let us focus on what we can do. And yes, that will be different for each one of us. But as cliché as it sounds, every little action we take does contribute to the overall impact. So, set yourself a challenge – generate less food waste; reduce the use of paper towels; walk more – or something else entirely.

My challenge this month – clearing out my email inbox to reduce my digital footprint and trying to reduce the lockdown biscuit consumption!

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In addition to the £7 billion of support the Treasury has provided for the aviation sector, the Government also launched the Aviation Skills Retention Platform, a scheme designed to find jobs for those in the aviation sector who may be unable to work because of the pandemic or to find similar roles that match their existing skillset.

This past month has also seen major progress on the Domestic Abuse Bill. This is an issue that affects 1 in 4 women, and it has been a privilege to get to know the genius women working tirelessly behind our local support services, East Surrey Domestic Abuse Service and Reigate and Banstead Women's Aid. I am delighted that the Bill will be strengthened on some of the key issues they and so many others have campaigned for, such as making non-fatal strangulation a specific criminal offence, punishable by up to five years in prison, and strengthening legislation around controlling or coercive behaviour; no longer making it a requirement for abusers and victims to live together.

As ever, if you have any questions or need my help, please do email me at claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk or leave me a message at 020 7219 5972. My team and I are on-hand to provide any assistance you may need as we move out of restrictions, and we aim to get back to everyone within 14 working days. By the time you are reading my next update, I very much hope we will have progressed to the second step in the roadmap out of lockdown, with non-essential retail and outdoor hospitality able to reopen. I know we are all keen for this process to be on-schedule so we can be reunited with family and friends as soon as possible, able to catch up on lost time.

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BURSTOW AND SMALLFIELD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Due to the continuing Covid restrictions, Burstow and Smallfield WI are still unable to hold actual meetings, but they do receive regular updates and for Valentine's Day they all had a goody bag delivered (under strict social distancing) from the WI committee.



With the expected easing of lockdown the WI proposes to be up and running again on the second Tuesday of July when they hope to celebrate Smallfield and Burstow WI's much belated 100th (and 101st) birthday. Any changes will be notified if necessary.

The National WI has undergone some changes during the last year, one of which was to change the Constitution to allow meetings and communications to take place electronically – ie by email and Zoom – this has brought the systems up to date with the 21st century. The National WI still proposes to hold its Annual Meeting at the Albert Hall in July – however, due to seating arrangements only one delegate per eight WIs will attend. Our delegate will be from Maple Village WI which is in Surbiton – not very near, I know, but I am sure we shall receive a comprehensive report. Voting will take place on the Resolution – a call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer.

As a WI we hope to run a cake stall this Autumn – I'm sure you remember the successful ones we held outside the shops in the village in that other life before Covid. Further updates later in the year but hopefully when things get back as near normal as possible we will all take part in village life again.

Alison Brown

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Burstow Friends of St Catherine's Hospice Summer Bring and Buy

Following the success of last year's Outwood Bring & Buy Stall, we have decided to hold similar sales again this Summer. Our big sellers were home grown fruit, vegetables and salads as well as home baked goods.

So, if you would like support the Hospice by planting a few extra seeds or encourage a few more seedlings along, we would be delighted and grateful to receive the fruits of your labours onto the stall during the Summer.

Full details of sales dates will be published nearer the time.

Angie Challis

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3 March

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Sunday services:

- Sunday morning worship on **Easter Day**, 4 April at 11 am (with communion)
- Sunday morning worship, 11 April at 11 am
- Sunday morning worship, 18 April at 11 am (with communion)
- Sunday morning worship, 25 April at 11 am

Sunday School:

Sundays from 11 am to noon

Church Contacts:

Deacon

Rosemary Foster

Tel: 01342 843630

Elder

Leslie Totten

Tel: 01342 844795

Church Secretary

Jean Totten

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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)

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■ 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;
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Miss Nicky Radford 07846 956140

Out in the garden (by Sue Wates)

Come late December daylight hours increase,
At first the gain so gradual that I hardly notice,
But nature has noticed and springs into action,
The dawn chorus is earlier and rings out with passion,
Buds plump up, leaves emerge from underground,
Promise of flowers to come, soon they'll be crowned,
A haze of green lustre appears on the trees,
And is that long grass waving in the breeze?
Woken from hibernation the trusty tractor is to hand,
Again, the sound of the mower is heard in our land,
Blades strong and sharp it trims, gathers up and tidies,
Not shorn too short ... Monty says it's good practice,
Plenty of time later to cut patterns attractive
and tame growing grass within an inch of its life!
But this first cut of the year is a worthy achievement,
Time to relax with a beer and enjoy the improvement,
It doesn't take long, it's really not a burden,
How good it feels once again to be out in the garden!

SMALLFIELD COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH

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