

SMALLFIELD *and* BURSTOW PARISH NEWS

50p

APRIL 2022



Growing
Health
Together,
see p13

See the
Covid
Signature
Quilt, p10

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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 outside
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RECTOR'S RAMBLINGS

I recently attended a training course on how to use the defibrillators that have now been installed in Smallfield – one at the pharmacy and one at


Centenary Hall. The importance of heart compressions (CPR) was emphasised over the use of rescue breaths ('kiss of life'). Though rescue breaths are good things to do, it was recognised that not everybody feels comfortable giving mouth to mouth resuscitation, especially to people they don't know – even more so in these Covid times which are still very much with us.

We have become very used to keeping our distance, wearing masks and not breathing on others, even though we are at last beginning to return to more normal times. However, I am still very struck by how breathing breath into someone, the kiss of life, as it were, is at the heart of the Bible story and the Christian message. Later this month, on Sunday 17 April, we shall celebrate Easter Day and as part of our Easter readings in church we shall hear read from John's Gospel how Jesus breathed on his disciples on the first Easter Day, breathing into them the breath of life, the life-giving force of the living Spirit of God – just as in the creation story at the beginning of Genesis, God breathes into man 'the breath of life' and he becomes a living being.

This breathing life back into things is picked up in CS Lewis's book, *The Lion The Witch and The Wardrobe*. If you know it, you may remember that when the lion Aslan arrives in Narnia he breathes on the statues of the creatures the witch had turned to stone, bringing them all to life again.



It's no coincidence that Aslan breathes life in the way that Jesus did. Though CS Lewis didn't originally intend to write a story with a Christian message he found that as he began to write about Narnia he began to see how this story could open up the deep truths of Christianity to people in a way that the teaching of the church wasn't able to. How, as he put it:


'Stories of this kind could steal past a certain inhibition which had paralyzed



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much of my own religion since childhood. Why did one find it so hard to feel as one was told one ought to feel about God or about the sufferings of Christ?

The feeling that says Easter may be Jesus' story but I don't feel it's my. But the Gospel story, the Easter story, is your story, my story, too. Each of us has a story to tell, the story of our lives and our experiences of joy and sorrow, love and loss. When St Paul was writing his letter to the members of the Corinthian church he said this:

'You yourselves are our letter; written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.'

I like that phrase 'you are a letter from Christ'. As we reflect on the story of our life and begin to share it with others, we create another page of the Bible, another chapter in the Jesus story. The story of your life, however it has unfolded and is unfolding, is holy and an unwritten page of the Bible.

And going back to where I began this letter, I would go on to say that not just is your life holy, but also that each breath you take is holy – holy breath. Each breath you take is inspiration, not just in a physical sense of filling your lungs but also in a spiritual sense of filling your soul with the breath of life, the life-giving force of the Holy Spirit of God. The new life we celebrate at Easter is not just something we celebrate once a year. Every day, every breath, is a celebration of new life, the life of God in you. Every day is Easter Day – a celebration of life as a gift from God.

With love and prayers for a joyful Eastertide

Nicholas

Nicholas.calver@btinternet.com



Café Church at Smallfield Church Hall

Come along to the launch of a new Café Church at 3pm on Good Friday, 15 April. There will be tea and hot cross buns and all-age craft activities

Café Church will then be at 3pm on every second Sunday of the month. Everyone, young or old, is very welcome. There will be refreshments in a café style setting along with activities, music and a short talk.

Come and take a look!

YOUR SMALLFIELD AND BURSTOW PARISH NEWS


Welcome to the April issue of the Parish News, which a 40 pages is the largest it has ever been!

This April issue marks the beginning of the new magazine year and you will have noticed that we have increased the price of each issue this year to 50p. We have resisted this as long as we could, especially through the past couple of very challenging years. However, printing costs have risen and we now feature more colour pages than we did, which also has price implications – though I hope you agree it also makes the magazine more interesting to look through!

If your magazine is delivered to you, the wonderful band of deliverers will be calling for your subscription of £5 for the year. If you prefer, you can put your subscription through the door of the Rectory at 5 The Acorns, opposite the Co op (cheques made payable to Burstow PCC). Or you can pay Burstow PCC online (Sort code: 30-94-38; account number 00042558). Don't forget to put your name or address as a reference.

Finally, please take time to look at the advertisements in every issue. The support of local businesses helps us keep costs down and it is important that we support them in return.

Judith Calver



Forget Me Nots

Centenary Hall, Smallfield

A dementia friendly club

We are a happy group providing refreshments, quizzes, entertainment and occasional outings

The club meets every Tuesday from 2.00pm until 4.00pm at Centenary Hall

If you are interested in joining us, please contact:
Mrs Bobby Weekes 07703 451618
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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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After a fairly quiet few months the council found itself to be at the centre of considerable activity during February.

In November 2020 when news of Covid vaccine discovery and a vaccination programme first broke the Parish Council agreed that we offer the hall as a vaccine centre. In the week between Christmas and New Year an appeal for volunteers yielded over 100 people who were ready to come forward and help with the running of the clinics. In mid to late January, Chris Botting came to the office and asked the Parish Council if she could make a signature quilt, her idea being to tell the story of the vaccine programme in Smallfield by collecting signatures from those involved in all areas from delivery to inoculation. After many months the quilt reached completion and is now mounted for all to see in Centenary Hall. The Parish Council arranged a social evening to thank all those helpers and members of NHS staff for their considerable efforts and at the same time took the opportunity to arrange a grand unveiling of the quilt. We approached Dame Judi Dench who was delighted to be invited to undertake both the unveiling of the quilt and an opportunity to convey her personal thanks to all those involved. Our thanks to her for her kindness and hopefully a good time was enjoyed by all. (See the quilt on page 10)

Four training sessions for the Council supplied defibrillators were arranged in the last week in February both by individual invitation and announced on social media. These were well attended and we received comprehensive instruction both in CPR and the operation of the equipment. Most of us were amazed to learn that a defibrillator actually stops the heart rather than start it, relying on the heart to regulate itself. All agreed that hopefully we would not have to put our new found knowledge to the test.

Some local residents have raised concerns that the council has endeavoured to resolve. The first is the speed of traffic in Antlands Lane, Shipley Bridge where we have arranged for Surrey County Council to carry out a Speed survey.

The second is the problems raised to pedestrians and traffic caused by the drop off and pick up of pupils attending the Aurora school in Redehall Road. A meeting was arranged with the head teacher of the school who is very aware of the problems and is taking some positive steps to resolve them with additional support from Surrey County Councillor Lesley Steeds who is also arranging for a comprehensive traffic survey.

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CAMEO Come And Meet Each Other

The Cameo meeting on 4 March had a metal detectorist, Tony Brown, come to give an interesting talk on all aspects of metal detecting. He also brought along some of the objects he had found and explained the laws about registering finds and how the more expensive metals would go to museums. The surrounding area, including Tilburstow Hill, South Godstone and Dorking have turned up articles of interest. We were offered the chance to try out the metal detector but no one took up the challenge. Quite different from our usual talks but enjoyed by all.

The next meeting of Cameo is at 2pm on Friday in Smallfield Church Hall, when John Thorpe from the Smallfield Aviation Group will come and talk about the role of women in the 2nd World War, ferrying planes from factories to airfields. All are most welcome. If you would like more information, or to speak to someone before coming for the first time, ring Jo (01342 843498) or Nicholas (01342 842224).

Val Butt



NEW DEFIBRILLATORS

If you have been observant as you wander round Smallfield, you will have noticed the Parish Council has installed two defibrillators, one outside the pharmacy, and another one outside Centenary Hall.

In an emergency, ring 999, and the operator will direct you to your nearest defibrillator and give you a code to open it. Once open, take the machine to the patient (rather than vice versa!) and follow the very clear instructions on how to operate it.

COVID SIGNATURE QUILT UNVEILED

Dame Judi Dench was at Centenary Hall at the end of February to unveil a special quilt commemorating the experience of Smallfield during the pandemic



The quilt was inspired and crafted by Chris Botting to illustrate the experience of the pandemic and in particular the vaccine roll out which took place at Centenary Hall from January to August last year, and the role played in that by all the medical staff and volunteers.

In his speech before the unveiling, chair of Burstow Council Ian Wates recalled how the parish council had agreed to offer Centenary Hall to Alliance Healthcare as a vaccine centre. Nothing was heard until just before Christmas when they asked if vaccinations could start before the end of the year! After much clearing of rooms and facilities by clerk and councillors, the first Pfizer vaccines were carried in by Dr Bosch on 6 January 2021. Between Christmas and New Year an appeal for volunteers had yielded over 100 people who, headed by Judy Wilkinson, helped by Heather Hagel, and now headed by Kay Hammond, through all weathers efficiently and warmly welcomed people for their vaccinations.



Later in January Chris Botting (left) asked the parish council if she could make a signature quilt. These originated in America in the 19th century and were given to people moving west as a keepsake. Her idea was to commemorate the vaccine programme by collecting signatures from all those involved. "It was like Topsy – it grew and grew," say Chris. Making the quilt took her until August "and used up all my spare fabric!". Parish Council Clerk Jeannie Ryan found out how to print images on to the fabric and the council then arranged and funded the framing of the quilt by Liz Cutter and Gerry Foley.

As she unveiled the quilt Dame Judi recalled the warm welcome she amongst all the others received when she came for her vaccinations and both she and Ian thanked the medical staff, the volunteers and everyone involved in any way who unselfishly gave time to make the programme a success.

Chris's handiwork is a wonderful tribute to them all and stands as a powerful commemoration of Smallfield's response to the Covid-19 pandemic.



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GROWING HEALTH TOGETHER

A new project is looking to support health and wellbeing in our area. Co-founder Dr Gillian Orrow explains

Dr Gillian Orrow will be known to many readers as one of the GPs at Smallfield Surgery, where she has worked since 2015. But she now has another string to her bow – as director of Growing Health Together (GHT), a programme that aims to enhance health and wellbeing in Smallfield, Horley and the whole of East Surrey. This was co-founded with Smallfield Surgery's senior partner, Dr Michael Bosch, and Katherine Saunders, who is CEO of the GP Federation ABC (which co-ordinated the COVID-19 vaccination programme locally).



“Before the pandemic hit us, it was already clear that many of the health problems the NHS is trying to deal with could be prevented, or helped at an earlier stage, through concerted action in our local communities,” says Dr Orrow. “Dr Bosch and I noted that patients regularly describe similar issues they are facing locally that are impacting on their health and wellbeing, and we recognised it was difficult to address many of these from within the four walls of our surgery”.

The idea behind GHT is that healthcare should not only be reactive but that resources should be put into being proactive to create an environment of good health for all. Dr Orrow explains: “Our surgery previously worked in isolation but now we are in dialogue with, for example, the school and the teachers next door. We also work with the local councils, community groups and people of different ages and backgrounds. Collectively, we are able to signpost and connect more people to activities already going on in our area that support physical and mental health and wellbeing. For example, the myriad activities offered by the Smallfield Practice Health Champions, and the church initiatives such as the Smallfield community lunches and CAMEO”.

Alongside her work as a GP, Dr Orrow has an academic and healthcare policy background, undertaking research at the University of Cambridge and contributing to national NICE (National Institute for Clinical Excellence) guidelines on the prevention of disease. This new initiative was born after acknowledging the gap between the scientific evidence on what is needed for

Continued overleaf

Continued from page 5

people's health and wellbeing to flourish throughout their lives, and the reality of what is available to everyone in the locality. Research shows that factors in our day-to-day lives – such as how active we are and how connected we are to others, along with the impact of employment, income, education, and the built and natural environment around us – together influence our health far more than healthcare. "There are important ways in which we can look at cultivating good health," says Dr Orrow. "These include keeping active, eating well, not smoking and not drinking too much, and feeling a sense of connection to others. Time spent in nature has also been shown to have powerful impacts, particularly on mental health."

But these areas of focus are more accessible to some people than others. "We need to be mindful of how financial pressures have intensified for many families over recent years," says Dr Orrow. "When money is in short supply,

In Smallfield there are already a number of initiatives in place to support health and well being:

- The Smallfield Surgery Health Champions run WOW (Welcome on Wednesdays) at Smallfield Church Hall, every Wednesday from 10.30am to noon. As well as the chat and company there are opportunities for art activities, chair yoga and singing (Heather, 07763 813463)
- The Champions also organise a monthly walk. Meet outside the surgery at 10.30am on the second Tuesday of the month (Judy Wilkinson, 07570 792718)
- The Smallfield Community lunch is on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 1pm in Smallfield Church Hall. All are welcome to come along for a home-cooked two course roast dinner. There is no fixed charge; payment is by donation (to book your place, ring Kay, 07808 322440)
- CAMEO (Come and meet each other) meets on the first Friday of the month at 2pm in Smallfield Church Hall for tea, cake and company as well as a varied range of speakers (Jo Coulson-Davis, 01342 843498, or Nicholas, 01342 842224)
- Forget Me Nots is a dementia friendly club that meets every Tuesday in Centenary Hall, 2-4pm (Bobby Weekes, 07703 451618)
- There are opportunities to play table tennis and shortmat bowls at Centenary Hall (Parish Clerk, Jeannie, 01342 841880)
- There are a number of Bounce classes at Smallfield Church Hall (Annalisa, www.bookwhen.com/bouncesmallfield) and a Flexercise class at Centenary Hall at 10am on Thursday mornings (Melody, melodysturtfitness@gmail.com)

More local health and community support information can be found at: <https://horleyonline.co.uk/health-support/>

cooking a healthy meal for the family, keeping your home warm or paying for fitness classes can seem beyond reach. So we are working to make it easier to access the fundamentals for health and wellbeing". Examples include initiatives to reduce fuel poverty, plans to improve cycle ways, improving access to green spaces and community cookery classes to enable healthy eating on a budget. Coincidentally, many of these initiatives also respond to the changes demanded by the climate crisis, an issue also close to Dr Orrow's heart.

She continues: "Rather than impose changes on local people, wherever possible we are trying to respond to what local people are telling us they want to see. We are also keen to support those who wish to set up new wellbeing initiatives in the area, whether that is a support group for parents of children with additional needs, a bereavement support group, or yoga classes for older people."

The Growing Health Together approach is now operating across East Surrey, linked to all the GP practices in the area and supported by the local CCG (the Clinical Commissioning Group which commissions most of the hospital and community NHS services). And it is creating wider interest around the country: Fiona Godlee, editor-in-chief of medical journal, the BMJ, describes Growing Health Together as 'absolutely the way forward', saying, "I can't imagine how we can get out of where we are now [with NHS pressures] without an approach like this".

We are indeed very fortunate here in Smallfield to be in the centre of such a pioneering approach. "What we are doing is drawing on the strength of community," says Dr Orrow. "Smallfield is a vibrant and special place, with wonderful people and inspiring community leaders. From my perspective, in healthcare we need to recognise and value the enormous health and wellbeing assets on our doorstep, and then build on these: making it easier for everyone to both contribute to, and benefit from the wellbeing of our community."

Now have your say

What other local initiatives are you aware of that we have not listed? And what else would you like to see locally? Contact Sarah Woodworth, Engagement Link Officer for Surrey County Council, and let her know (email: info@growinghealthtogether.org). If you do not have access to the internet, write a note addressed to Dr Orrow and drop it in to the Smallfield Surgery and she will ensure it is passed on.

Dr Orrow is also wondering what initiatives are either in place, or needed, for teens and young families. Do get in touch with her or with Sarah, as above, and make your thoughts known.

OUTWOOD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Spring is on the way and our programme for 2022 continues with friendship and learning at its core as always. This month we welcomed Dr Helena Griffiths as our guest speaker. A geologist with keen enthusiasm for travel exploration, Helena reminded us all how wonderful it is to visit different areas around the world – something we have all missed during the last two years of pandemic.



In 2015 Helena undertook a solo trip around western Australia, experiencing basic outback roads and the challenging topography. She stayed in a total of 34 national parks as she progressed on her mammoth journey. Her only companion was a gnome called Darren attached to the front grille of her heavy-duty vehicle! Helena covered 22,000 kilometres in 80 days, following a route through the centre of the country and round the western coast through Perth which is geographically the most remote city in the world. Accompanied by stunning photographs of the breath-taking scenery and unique wildlife, her descriptions made us gasp with the details of the challenges to be faced when surviving her intrepid journey. Most of us are not brave enough to undertake such a challenging adventure, but we left the meeting determined to spread our horizons to more distant climes again soon.

Now that strict visiting restrictions are behind us, we are hoping to restart some day trips and our first planned group outing will be to the Wildlife Centre in South Godstone. Regular clubs in members' homes are also reinstated (pins and needles, book club, play reading group, mah jong club, quiz on Zoom) and we hope to expand these as we are presently welcoming several new members.

At our next meeting on Tuesday 5 April at 2.30pm we shall be enjoying a live cookery demonstration from Gill Potterton of Glorious Foods; she will be inspiring us to try new dishes using fresh spring ingredients. It will be our membership renewal month so, if you have been considering joining our happy group, then do come along and see what we have to offer. **Elizabeth Dyke**

SMALLFIELD STROKE CLUB

It is with sadness that we must report the closure of the Smallfield Stroke Club. We were quite a small club and with many of our members having passed away our numbers had declined to a level that made the club unviable. The pandemic also took its toll and regrettably this friendly local club that had helped so many people in past years has now closed its doors. The financial assets of the Club have been donated to the national Stroke Association to help them as they continue to support stroke victims and their families.

Ann Slade



**Practice Health
Champions** +

**Smallfield
Community**

Please join us for a bluebell walk in Hornecourt Woods, Outwood, on Tuesday 5 April.

We will be meeting by the Outwood Windmill at 10.45am. If you need transport come to the Surgery car park at 10.30am and we will give you a lift. Do wear either walking shoes/boots as it is still very muddy in the woods.

Please ring Judy on 07570 792718 if you would like to come. If heavy rain is forecast we may have to cancel the walk.

We are looking   for a committed and enthusiastic person to lead our monthly walks. If you   are interested, please   ring Judy on the above number.

Craft Group

Come and join us for an afternoon of craft at Centenary Hall for:
patchwork, crochet, knitting, embroidery, sewing, card making and much more!

Why not learn a new skill?

Or just join us for a coffee and a chat!

From 2-4 pm on Mondays 25 April, 23 May, 27 June, 25 July and 22 August.

Further details from Chris: 01342 459836



Some crafters at the group have been making these little knitted dolls to give to the patients in the Evelina Children's Hospital

WOW Welcome on Wednesdays

WOW is a coffee morning for all the community, set up and run by the Smallfield Surgery Health Champions. It takes place every Wednesday in Smallfield Church Hall, opposite the Co op, from 10.30 am - 12 noon. As well as chat and company over drinks and cakes, there are such activities as chair yoga, singing, quizzes, artwork and games. Just come along on the day but if you would like to know more, ring Heather on 07763 813463.

FARMING UPDATE

Last month Ian McCubbine wrote about the value of farming organisations in supporting farmers who can feel very isolated. This month we welcome Romy Jackson, Surrey and Sussex County Adviser at the National Farmers' Union, who writes about her job and reports from the NFU annual conference

The National Farmers Union (NFU) is 'the voice of British farming'; we have 50,000 members across England and Wales. I am the National Farmers' Union, County Adviser for Sussex and Surrey. My role within the organisation involves representing the 1,300 farming members of those counties.

For the past two years I have been predominantly working from home and holding meetings outside on-farm and in farm sheds when permitted. Our network of members operates through local branches who hold evening meetings and farm walks so that members can catch up with each other and learn from industry speakers. As with farming, there is no typical week – I can be on-farm one day with an MP, speaking to the police about rural crime the next and on a Teams call with the local Council in the afternoon. When we aren't holding policy



makers to account and making sure farming is represented in new rules and regulations, we are helping farmers with their on-farm issues, queries and aspirations.

On 22 and 23 February farming members from across England and Wales met in Birmingham ICC for our annual Conference with a theme 'Celebrating the future of farming'. Having been virtual in 2021, the face-to-face interaction was a welcome return for the 1,400 attendees.

One incredible highlight was when we heard from Dr Theo De Jager, President of the World Farmers' Organisation, about the global challenges and opportunities for farmers. Theo is the first South African to head

the global organisation and a co-founder of a company which assists small farmers in Africa to transition to commercial farming. He farms in the South African Lowveld region with timber and subtropical fruits including avocados, mangoes and macadamia nuts.



Theo's incredible presentation covered the similarities and differences between UK farming and other countries. Globally he has seen the necessity for all policy to be science-based so that it can be monitored and made resilient for all parties. "When we talk about food security, food systems, food value chains, we are not only talking about natural sciences. It's more and more important also to hear the voice of the social scientists, and the economists, and the communication scientists." This is something that is increasing in domestic as well as global policy discussions.

On poverty, it was highlighted that there is enough food in the world, and that farmers are outproducing; we can still afford to have 30% food loss and waste. However, there are close to 900 million people in the world who are uncertain if they will eat each day, and Africa is home to many of these. Theo made the stark link between this fact and that of 98% of African farmers being smallholders. He feels strongly that romanticising smallholding is 'a poverty trap' which hides profitability for the farming families. Regardless of the country, without profitability farming is not sustainable and cannot seek to deliver the additional benefits to communities without a financially viable business underpinning the core activities. Theo spoke with such passion and relatability on these and other subjects, it left a lasting impression on all.

A second highlight for the South East Region came at the end of the formal



AGM where elected members voted for the new National Officeholder team. David Exwood, tenant farmer from Horsham, was successfully elected to the role of National Vice President. David will now work with our current president Minette Batters and Deputy, Tom Bradshaw to lead the NFU through the next two years.

It was lovely to see everyone in person and I look forward to getting back out on farms in the beautiful Surrey and Sussex countryside with members during the spring and summer months.

News from the 1st Burstow Scouts

The 1st Burstow Scout Group is enjoying the return of more 'normal' programmes and activities.

After half term, on Monday 28 February, the Beavers and Cubs were joined by their Parents and Carers at our 'Good For You Two' evening. We wanted to demonstrate how Scouting is delivering skills for life to our young members. During the evening everyone took part in sewing their own bookmark, lighting a candle, laying a table for dinner and rolling their Scout Group scarf neatly and correctly, so they will look smart in uniform. John Freebody, our expert scarf roller, was in charge of this activity. As Shrove Tuesday was the following day we also decorated pancakes. The evening was finished off with 'pancake flipping' races. This was a brilliant evening and the parents and carers were all amazing. Hopefully some may volunteer to help occasionally now they can see what fun Scouting is!

The Beavers, Cubs and Scouts have continued building on their skills by working on their Emergency Aid Badges.



We have talked about the importance of getting help and in an emergency, the importance of keeping ourselves safe, looking after someone unconscious including the recovery position and looking after wounds, with some help from our teddies.

On Saturday 2 April at 6.30 pm, our Easter Egg Bingo returns after a break of two years. Tickets booked in advance cost £6 per adult and £3 per child. Tickets on the door will be £7 per adult and £3.50 per child. All tickets include light refreshments. To book please email gsl@burstowscouts.org or phone 01342 718862.

If you know a boy or girl who would like to join the 1st Burstow Scout Group, to have fun while learning skills for life through Scouting, please contact me on 01342 844998 or by email at enquiries@burstowscouts.org. Adults are always welcome too.

We have many roles to suit all and help support our young people. **Rowenna Woodward BEM**
Group Scout Leader

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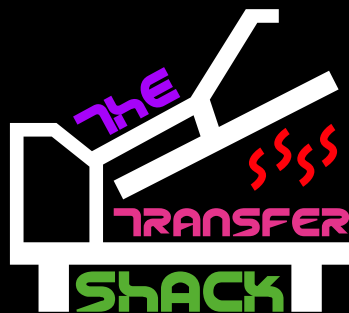
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News from the 1st Burstow Brownies



The 1st Burstow Brownies have been enjoying our meetings focusing on getting creative and celebrating Pancake Day. We have also celebrated World Thinking Day and took part in a variety of activities to get us working together.

After some pancake related activities, the Brownies were treated to their own pancakes with a variety of toppings that went down very well. We learnt about why we celebrate Pancake Day and the importance of Lent.

This term we have focused on all things creative from making Valentine's Day crafts to creating our own dances as a group. The Brownies love getting crafty and are looking forward to our Easter activities.

The Brownies also took part in a talk from Cats Protection – we were incredibly proud of them for their understanding and care for animals.

If you have a daughter who is interested in joining the waiting list for 1st Burstow Brownies, please contact us by email: burstow_brownies@hotmail.co.uk

Sophie, Helen, and Caroline

Claire Coutinho MP

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
FOR EAST SURREY

Since I was elected, I've held regular surgeries with local residents to talk about the issues that matter to them.

I've also been holding regular remote surgeries by telephone, so if you need any help or want to raise an issue of importance to you, please don't hesitate to email or call me to set up a meeting.



Claire

0207 219 5972

clairecoutinho.com

claire.coutinho.mp
@parliament.uk

claire4eastsurrey

@clairecoutinho

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Claire Coutinho, both at 6 Godstone
Road, Lingfield RH7 6BW

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

I cannot start this month's column without addressing the Putin regime's invasion of Ukraine.

Like many of you, I have been appalled by the violence we have seen. However, what has struck me most of all is not Putin's bombs or his brutality, but the courage and heroism of the Ukrainian people. In particular, I know we have all been deeply moved by the inspirational leadership of President Zelenskyy.

Alongside our international partners, the Government is now imposing the largest and most severe package of sanctions which Russia has ever seen, as well as coordinating a response with our allies to make sure Putin cannot further undermine European security.

Locally, my team and I have been working around the clock with several Ukrainian families from East Surrey who have been trying to bring their loved ones here, and I hope by the time you are reading this they will have arrived safely. If you have Ukrainian loved ones still in the country or region, or if you know somebody who does, please do contact me at claire.coutinho.mp@parliament.uk and I will do all I can to help.

From donations of food to medicines to toiletries, I have also been so inspired by the generosity shown by so many across East Surrey. The community-led action we have seen is quite literally saving lives. Thank you. Some of you have also offered to take in Ukrainian refugees yourselves, and I am pleased to report that the Government's Homes for Ukraine scheme is now open for residents, businesses and charities to volunteer to do exactly that.

On the important issue of trains, I recently met with Govia Thameslink again to discuss the current situation and how unacceptable it is that constituents are not receiving the level of service they need. I'd like to thank Cllr Becky Rush, Cllr Cameron McIntosh and Cllr Lesley Steeds for joining me and for all of their work in this area. I've also met with the Rail Minister and raised the particular point that with recent changes to coronavirus restrictions, we can expect a fall in staff absence and an increase in the number of services being run. I will be pushing both the Minister and Govia Thameslink to make sure this happens.

On 8 March, we marked International Women's Day. I am honoured to be the first female MP for East Surrey and the 525th woman elected to the House of Commons. However, the fact that we are yet to reach 650 women - the number it would take to fill the House - over the course of our history should give us pause for thought.

During my speech in the House to mark the occasion, I made the case for more women in advanced maths, science and tech careers, so that women don't have to play catch up with the jobs of the future. I also had the opportunity to discuss this with the Prime Minister recently and he firmly agreed that women need to be in the jobs with the highest returns and where the big decisions are made.

Ahead of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, I was delighted to nominate East Surrey resident Elaine Forsyth to be a Queen's Batonbearer. From her role as Head of Pre-Prep at Hawthorns School, to her passion for ensuring every child can achieve their potential, to her efforts with local charities - her credentials speak volumes.

I also had the pleasure of visiting the Merstham Community Hub recently with Deano, Sara and Marcus from the Whyteleafe and Kenley Community Hub. From a food club, to a repair shop, to library facilities - it's such an impressive set-up. Thanks so much to Cllr Mark Brunt for showing us around.

As many of you will know, the team in Whyteleafe have already established a food bank but are now looking to expand the services they offer along the lines of the Merstham Community Hub. Deano, Sara and Marcus are true community champions and I'm really excited to see them continue to go from strength to strength.

I was also delighted to attend a recent meeting of the Chelsham and Farleigh Parish Council. From planning enforcement to protecting our woodlands, it was a really productive discussion. Thank you to Cllr Jan Moore for the invitation.

In mid-March, I met with some of my fellow Surrey MPs to learn about the issues being faced by a particular part of the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Protecting our environmental treasure chest is one of my top priorities, so I was pleased to reaffirm my support extending the AONB.

I also met with our Police and Crime Commissioner, Lisa Townsend, to talk about residents' concerns. In particular, we discussed women's safety and tackling the issue of male violence, and I'm pleased to report that Surrey has received over £1 million from the Government's Safer Streets Fund to date, including £300,000 for Godstone and Betchingley.

Lastly, I was recently contacted by the team at Oxted School to ask if I could help them find any local employers willing to give their Year 10 pupils some work experience. I'm looking forward to welcoming one of their pupils here to the Houses of Parliament in July to give them an insight into my work as the MP for East Surrey. If you're a local employer or if you know of anyone who might be interested in offering a week of work experience, please do get in touch with stephen.orozco@oxted.thpt.org.uk.

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GOING GREEN – SHOULD WE CARE?

This month in her series on living in a more environmentally way, Lauma Kazusa considers how we should care in a troubled world

At the beginning of the year, we were looking forward to a 'new normal' post-COVID. Yet it did not take long for a new crisis to emerge.

I come from Latvia and like many Eastern Europeans, the day the war broke out, I found myself questioning the meaning of life and the point in what I do the day the war broke out.

Environment and resource management are my professional preoccupation, so it did not take long to pose a question – why should anyone care about pollution, waste, recycling, green energy and so on, with the war raging on the doorstep?

I fully understand the immediate humanitarian priorities and the consequences of rising costs for individuals and businesses. The conclusion is we still should care about the 'green' topics as many are common sense practices anyhow.

It is no longer about reducing costs; it is about cost control, resource management and self-sufficiency.

- Sound waste management and recycling capture resources used in new product manufacturing. The use of recycled paper, plastic and other materials is less energy-intensive, thus less energy consumed in production.
- Increasing resource utilisation and reducing the waste generated by households and businesses also reduces energy needs and waste management costs.
- When possible, cutting back on water consumption helps reduce wastewater treatment, which is more energy and chemical-intensive than drinking water supply.
- Renewable energy and electrification can help to wean us off fossil fuels. This topic is significant for product manufacturers as many rely on gas and diesel operated equipment.
- Insulation of domestic and commercial properties can help with the growing energy bills.

As individuals, we often feel far removed from any industrial processes; nonetheless, our choices and activities influence the bigger picture. But simple actions such as recycling or turning off the tap when brushing teeth collectively have an impact. And do they significantly affect our quality of life – probably not.

We all know rising costs will be passed on to us as consumers, and it might seem there is little we can do. But we can all change how and what we can consume, and the collective effort will make an impact.



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Join us for an afternoon walk through beautiful woodland, followed by teas and home-made cakes at the Outwood cricket pavilion

Starting at the National Trust car park on Outwood Common at 2pm

Families Welcome

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Donations to St Catherine's Hospice

Teas served at the Cricket pavilion by kind permission

For details, call Angie on 01342 843718

Burstow Group of St Catherine's Hospice

Plant Sale

on Thursday 5 May

outside the Centenary Hall, Smallfield

Plough Road Allotment Group and friends are back with plants for sale in aid of St Catherine's Hospice. We are cheekily taking advantage of the extra footfall generated by the local elections. All for a good cause!

We plan to set up early morning and stay until we have sold most of our plants. Please bring cash or cheques and your bags to put your plants in.

We hope to see you there – many thanks for all your support .

Linda Lodge

SMALLFIELD CLUB AND READING ROOM NEW ROAD, SMALLFIELD


Thank you to everyone who supported our first live band since the start of COVID we had an amazing night!

Forthcoming events and entertainment:

- 1 April AGM – 8pm start
- 2 April Live music with Peach & The Prairie Dogs – 8pm start
Members free, guests £5
- 16 April Live music with Okee Dokee Band – 8pm start
Members free, guests £5
- 14 May Tamla Motown Disco with Dave Constable – 8pm start
Members free, guests £2
- Bingo every Wednesday ■ Meat Raffle every Friday ■ Free Pool every Sunday

New Members welcome, membership forms from Bar Staff.

The Committee



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Parish Council: continued from page 7

And last but certainly not least, we are well aware of public concern over the rather strange District Council regulations regarding the single licensing of food sales at Centenary Hall. We are given to understand that if we are able to close the car park multiple traders can operate and steps are under way to facilitate this.

Covid is on the rise in the village. Despite the lifting of restrictions, I would ask you all to take great care and maintain sensible precautions.

**Ian Wates, Chair,
Burstow Parish Council**

THE PLANNING PROCESS EXPLAINED

With the current conversations locally about planning and development, Debbie Hale, chair of Burstow Parish Council Planning Committee, explains how planning process works

The Government delegates planning decision making to local planning authorities, in our case Tandridge. After a planning application is received and validated by Tandridge a period of consultation follows. This gives the opportunity for people and organisations to make their views known. This formal consultation period normally lasts for 21 days. As part of the process the planning authority identifies and consults with a number of different groups.

The main types of consultation can broadly be split into three areas. These are:

- Public consultation – including consultation with neighbouring residents and community groups
- Statutory consultees – where there is a requirement in law to consult a specific body
- Non-statutory consultees – where there are planning policy reasons to engage with other consultees who, whilst not designated by law, are likely to have an interest in a proposed development.

Parish Councils sit within the statutory consultee group. The important word here is 'consultee'. While parish councils have a right to comment on all applications in their area, there is no obligation on the planning authority to act upon their recommendation.

The second element of planning is that even though planning authorities

Continued overleaf

Planning: continued from previous page

have the power to make decisions on applications, any decisions taken need to reflect current planning legislation and guidance. The Government issues and updates a document called the NPPF, aka the National Planning Policy Framework. This sets out the various planning laws that planning authorities must be mindful of when determining applications. Each individual district must also have a local plan that refers specifically to their area. On an even more local level, parishes can and do have Neighbourhood Plans that reflect local needs.

A Planning Authority cannot make a decision to refuse an application that contradicts the NPPF or else they run the risk of the applicant appealing the decision. This can end up being very expensive if the planning authority has to pay not only their own costs, but also those of the applicant.

Another important factor, which is part of the general legal obligation on public authorities to act fairly, is 'Bias and Predetermination'. People who make decisions are entitled to be predisposed to particular views. However, predetermination, occurs when someone closes their mind to any other possibility beyond their predisposition. Therefore they are unable to apply their judgement fully and fairly.

Section 25 of the Localism Act 2011 provides that a decision maker should not be considered to, or have appeared to have a closed mind when making a decision just because they may have done or said anything in the past. It makes it clear that this does not show a councillor has a closed mind on the issue. Just because a councillor may have campaigned on an issue or made public statements about their approach to an item of council business does not prevent the councillor from being able to participate in discussion of that issue and vote on it. What it does show is that words used by members and the interpretation of those words is extremely important. Care must be taken when making statements in advance of the determination of planning applications as there is a risk they can be misinterpreted or taken out of context.

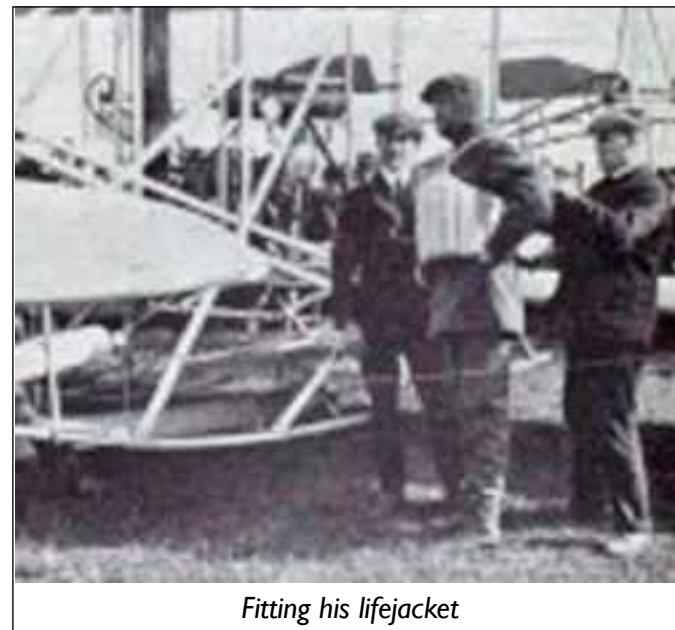
So councillors can and do express their views on issues but it is very important that they avoid giving any impression they have made their mind up or that their decision in a matter is a foregone conclusion.'

Residents are very welcome (and have a democratic right) to attend Council planning meetings and are able to speak about any application listed on the agenda. The Planning Committee meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month, except August. More information can be obtained from the Parish Clerk. Tel: 01342 841880 Email: clerk@burstowparishcouncil.org.uk



AVIATION GROUP

The speaker at our meeting at 7pm on Tuesday 5 April in the Centenary Hall will be Steve Robson with 'Charles Rolls (of Rolls Royce fame) and the 1910 Bournemouth Aviation Meeting'. He was one of the best known aviators of the time, in 2010 becoming the first person to make a double crossing in an aeroplane of the English Channel. Sadly the next year he became Britain's first powered aeroplane casualty when he lost his life in an accident at Bournemouth. Not a lot of people know this, but while taking the Wright Brothers, the pioneers of flight, back to London from Kent in a Rolls Royce Silver Ghost, he got nicked for speeding going up Shooters Hill in south east London.



Fitting his lifejacket

On Tuesday 3 May Dr Robert Owen will tell us about 'Tallboy versus Tirpitz'. The German battleship hiding in a Norwegian fiord was a threat to North Atlantic and Arctic convoys and several attempts to sink it had failed; that was until the famous 617 Dam Busters Squadron obtained the specialised Tallboy bomb.

Visitors are always most welcome, admission is £3 (members £1) for the evening which includes refreshments and two tickets for a raffle of transport books. The Membership fee for the rest of 2022 is £14 (£21 for couples) and £4 for those under 20. Call 01342 841564 for further information.

John Thorpe

John will be speaking at the April meeting of CAMEO. on the role of women pilots in World War II. See page 9 for details

COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Community Lunches are held in Smallfield Church Hall, usually on the third Sunday of the month: everyone is welcome for a delicious home-cooked two-course lunch. People come in groups or alone – there is always someone to chat to. There is no fixed charge but donations are invited on the day. The next lunch, will be at 1 pm on **Sunday 24 April** (note that Easter means this month it is on the fourth Sunday) so ring Kay on 07808 322440 to book your place!

SOUTH NUTFIELD CHORAL SOCIETY

Saturday 14 May 2022 at 7.30pm

Brahms: Schicksalslied (Song of Destiny)

Karl Jenkins: Sacred Songs

Parry: My soul, there is a country and other part-songs

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Coffee Morning

Saturday 2 April, 10 am to 12 noon

with Easter shop to help support St Catherine's Hospice
Everyone is welcome for a free coffee or tea and a slice of cake

Easter services

- Maundy Thursday Communion, 14 April at 6.30pm
- Easter Sunday worship, 17 April at 11am

Regular Sunday services:

- Sunday morning worship, 3 April at 11 am
- Sunday morning worship, 10 April at 11 am (with communion)
- Sunday morning worship, 24 April at 11 am

Sunday School:

Sundays from 11 am to noon

Bible Study and Prayer meeting:

- Day of Prayer at 10-11 am on Wednesday 6 April
- Every Wednesday in March at 7.30 pm (except 6 April) looking at the book of Amos

Church Contacts:

Deacon
Rosemary Foster
Tel: 01342 843630

Elder
Leslie Totten
Tel: 01342 844795

Church Secretary
Jean Totten
Tel: 01342 844795

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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 01883 722000

Tandridge District Councillors

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

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

■ Mick Gillman (email: cllr.mick.gillman@tandridgedc.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;

email: stuart.wren@surrey.pnn.police.uk)

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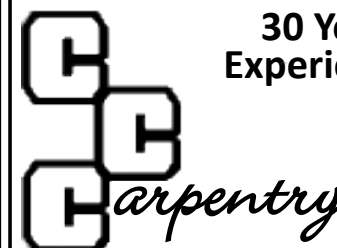
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30	Smallfield Community Speedwatch VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Help support your local team	40
	<p>In the year ended December 2021 your Speedwatch team reported 2054 offenders</p> <p>!! The top speed recorded was 70mph in a 30mph speed limit !!</p> <p>JOIN OUR FRIENDLY, ENTHUSIASTIC TEAM</p> <p>Smallfield Community Speedwatch team would love your help! Come and help educate drivers traveling through our village.</p> <p>This year Surrey Police have joined forces with West Sussex and many more counties throughout the country that work to the National Standard with Community Speedwatch Online and Operation Crackdown. This does not just educate drivers in realising their speed but also uses driver profiling to identify drivers that need educating in many areas (disruptive driving, abusive language etc).</p> <p>Contact the Parish clerk if you have an hour or two a month free. Training is now given by one of our Speedwatch volunteers along with online learning.</p>	
30		40

The Windmill United Benefice

St Bartholomew, Burstow ■ St Mary the Virgin,
Horne ■ St John the Baptist, Outwood

Church Calendar for April

Sunday, 3 April

- 9.30 am Morning Worship at **Burstow Church**
10 am Family Service at **Horne Church**
11 am Morning Worship at **Outwood Church**

Palm Sunday, 10 April

- 10 am Joint Service of Holy Communion with palms and
dramatised reading at **Burstow Church**

Maundy Thursday, 14 April

- 7 pm Passover Meal and Holy Communion in
Smallfield Church Hall, followed by vigil

Good Friday, 15 April

- 2 pm Good Friday Liturgy at **Horne Church**
3 pm Café Church: Tea and hot cross buns in **Smallfield
Church Hall**, together with all-age craft activities

Easter Eve, 16 April

- 8 pm Easter Vigil and Lighting of New Fire at
Outwood Church

Easter Day, 17 April

- 7 am Early Easter service on **Outwood Common**
9.30 am Holy Communion for Easter at **Burstow Church**
11 am Holy Communion for Easter at **Horne Church**
11 am Holy Communion for Easter at **Outwood Church**

Sunday 24 April

- 9.30 am Morning Worship at **Burstow Church**
10 am Holy Communion at **Horne Church**
11 am Morning Worship at **Outwood Church**



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- 98% of work carried out in a one hour visit and fixed price workshop repairs.
- Repairs speedup and maintenance, Data transfer/recovery, Computer malware/virus removal.
- New computers set up and made to feel familiar.
- Tablet & Smartphone setup and repairs.



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