THURSLEY PARISH MAGAZINE

St Michael & All Angels

MARCH 2025

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murray@murrayshepherd.co.uk +447710 566472 www.murrayshepherd.co.uk @murray.shepherd

EDITORIAL
By Tricia Horwood

***Well** we certainly have an eclectic magazine this month. From A Day in the Life of a TV & Film Music Supervisor to past VE/VJ day celebrations, musings from a local farmer, the carbon cycle and an article about a holocaust survivor, there is something for everyone!*

***We** welcome back Debbie Spencer from her winter hibernation with a new Give it a Grow article full of helpful advice to get you started again—you have been missed. And to get you in the spring mood the Horts Society are hosting a talk on growing and caring for olive trees by a very entertaining speaker, Mike Burton (see p21).*

***With** the sad passing of Hilary Barr recently an old tradition has been revived in her memory and that is a monthly lunch at the pub for the 50 plus ladies in the village. Full details can be found on p15.*

***The** History Society have been hard at work finalising the village plans to celebrate VE and VJ Day in May. An exhibition is being put together by Sally Scheffers for the weekend of 3/4th May, and various other activities are taking place during the following week, including a nostalgic WW2 concert in the church, open gardens around the village, and a cricket match and culminating in a VE Day party and beacon lighting outside the pub (see p26).*

***And** finally, a big thank you to Anne Wakeley who has just stepped down after organising the church flowers for over 25 years. She and her team have done a brilliant job keeping the church looking blooming lovely. Lisa Woods has generously offered to take on the role and would welcome any volunteers (see p11).*

PLEASE NOTE EARLY DEADLINE OF 8TH MARCH 2025 FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO THE APRIL 2025 ISSUE OF THURSLEY PARISH MAGAZINE.
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SERVICES FOR THE PARISHES OF ELSTEAD, THURSLEY, SHACKLEFORD & PEPER HAROW

MARCH

SUNDAY 2nd	9.15am	Communion at St James', Elstead
Sunday next before Lent	**9.45am**	**Communion at St Michael's, Thursley**
In the Temple	10.30am	Modern Service with Communion at St James', Elstead
WEDNESDAY 5th	7.00pm	Service at St James', Elstead
Ash Wednesday		
SUNDAY 9th	9.15am	Communion at St James', Elstead
Lent 1	10.30am	Family Service at St James', Elstead
	5.00pm	Taize Service at St Nicholas, Peper Harow
SUNDAY 16th	**9.45am**	**Communion at St Michael's, Thursley**
Lent 2	10.30am	Modern Service at St James', Elstead
SUNDAY 23rd	10.00am	Communion at St Nicholas, Peper Harow
Lent 3	10.30am	Modern Service at St James', Elstead
SUNDAY 30th	9.15am	Communion Service at St James', Elstead
Mothering Sunday	**9.45am**	**Communion at St Michael's, Thursley**
	11.00am	Service of the Word, Shackleford

www.parishesofetsph.org.uk

MARCH

CHURCH CLEANING

(Please contact Sallie Roles if you can help)

Julie LANGLEY Helen FLAVELL Gillian DUKE

CHURCH FLOWERS

(Please contact Lisa Woods if you can help)

2nd Anne WAKELEY 16th LENT 30th LENT

COFFEE ROTA

(Please contact Caroline Mendelssohn if you can help)

2nd Sarah TRAILL 16th Anne WAKELEY 30th Sabrina DRAGONI-LONG

VILLAGE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH

Tuesday 4th	7.00pm	**Thursley Parish Council Meeting.** Village Hall. All welcome.
Saturday 15th	10.00am	**Churchyard Working Party**. St Michael & All Angels Church. All help welcome.
Wednesday 19th	11-12.30	**Elevenses at St Michael's & All Angels**. All welcome.
	7.30pm	**Horts Society Talk on Olive Trees**. Village Hall. All welcome. See p21.
Thursday 20th	12.30pm	**Thursley 50+ Ladies Lunch**. Three Horseshoes Pub. Booking essential. See p13
Sunday 30th	9.45am	**Mothering Sunday Service at St Michael's**. See p25.

CHURCH FLOWERS

After more than 25 years supervising church flowers, I am now handing over into the very capable hands of Lisa Woods. It is very kind of her to take up the challenge and I know she will do a brilliant job.

I would like to take this opportunity of giving huge thanks to my team of loyal helpers. I knew I could always count on your support and you made my job so much easier and more rewarding. You all did beautiful arrangements and the church at all times looked lovely - thank you.

Lisa will be taking over from May 1st, and if anyone is keen to join our little group please can you contact her on 07710 070412 or lisa@hedgefarm.co.uk.

Anne Wakeley

REFLECTION ON BRAVERY, MERCY & LEADERSHIP

By Revd Hannah Moore

Recently, I have been reflecting on the concepts of bravery, mercy and leadership.

Bravery is often perceived as the willingness to face danger or adversity. However, it also encompasses standing up for what is right, even when it is not the popular choice. True bravery involves overcoming our fears and acting in the face of injustice. It requires moral courage to speak out and act with integrity, even when it may lead to personal sacrifice or criticism. I have been thinking particularly of this as the Church of England at a national level has faced challenges and criticism about its handling of various safeguarding scandals over the last few months. I have also been reflecting on the concept of bravery considering the financial strain that many parishes face to remain independent parishes and the upkeep of historic buildings. Some brave if not popular decisions need to be made for the future of churches and parishes up and down our country.

Mercy involves showing compassion or forgiveness towards someone whom one has the power to punish or harm. It is a fundamental aspect of Christian life, as illustrated in the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18). Each week in churches, during the Kyrie Confession, we ask for mercy, reflecting our need for forgiveness and our commitment to extend the same to others. Mercy calls us to address the world's wounds with kindness and understanding, following the example set by Christ. We all need to show mercy and loving-kindness to each other so that we can create a better society.

Effective leadership combines both bravery and mercy. Leaders must have the courage to confront injustices and make difficult decisions, while also showing compassion and understanding towards those they lead. Bishop Budde of the Episcopal Church in Washington exemplified this when she addressed President Trump, urging him to show compassion and mercy to those who were anxious following his inauguration. I have been impressed by her bravery and leadership. Here is the essence of her address and challenge to President Trump, *"I urge you to show compassion to those in our country who are afraid. Gay, lesbian, and transgender children in families of all political affiliations fear for their lives. Those who pick crops, clean offices, work in poultry farms and meat-packing plants, wash dishes in restaurants, and staff night shifts in hospitals may lack citizenship or proper documentation, but most immigrants are not criminals. They pay taxes and are good neighbours. They are faithful members of churches, mosques, synagogues, gurdwaras, and temples. Mr. President, please have mercy on those whose children fear parental deportation. Help refugees fleeing war and persecution find compassion here. Our God teaches us to be merciful to strangers, as we were once strangers ourselves. May God give us strength and courage to honour human dignity, speak truth with love, and walk humbly with one another for the good of our nation and the world."*

History is replete with individuals who have exhibited bravery and

leadership. For instance, after enduring twenty-seven years of imprisonment, Nelson Mandela emerged without bitterness and guided South Africa towards reconciliation. Rather than seeking vengeance, he advocated for forgiveness and unity, contributing significantly to the healing of a nation fractured by apartheid. Pope Francis was known for his compassionate approach; he emphasized mercy in his leadership. He has reached out to marginalized groups, advocated for the poor, and encouraged a more inclusive and forgiving church. Martin Luther King Jr the leader of the American Civil Rights Movement, preached non-violence and forgiveness. He encouraged his followers to respond to hatred and violence with love and understanding, embodying mercy in his fight for justice and equality. These are just a few examples of people who led bravely and demonstrated mercy. Leadership rooted in bravery and mercy inspires trust and fosters a sense of community and shared purpose. May we all strive to live with bravery, show mercy, and lead with integrity.

Reflecting on bravery, mercy, and leadership calls us to a higher standard of conduct. We are encouraged to confront injustices with courage while extending compassion to those in need. By doing so, we can be beacons of hope and support for our communities.

EASTER SATURDAY CONCERT BY OVIS CANTORUM

At 6pm on Saturday 19th April there will be a choral concert featuring music for Holy Week. Our own Rob Goldfinch will be accompanying the choir which is directed by David Swinson. The choir is affiliated to the Worshipful Company of Woolmen (hence the name) and predominantly features young adult professional singers who are alumni of Trinity School where David was director of music for over 20 years and is now Director Emeritus of the world famous Trinity Boys Choir.

The Programme will last for just over an hour and is going to include various a Capella motets by Tallis, Byrd, Gibbons, Lotti, Walford Davies and Tomas de la Victoria and accompanied works by Mozart, Brahms, Burgon and Howells.

David's CV is highly impressive - Jesus College Cambridge Organ scholar, multiple prize winner at the Royal College of Organists, including in his fellowship exam, and preparation of singers for Glyndebourne, Covent Garden, The Proms and with the Monteverdi Choir in Venice and Gabrieli Consort. He guest conducts the Bournemouth Symphonia and London Mozart Players and represents the UK at the annual international organ festival In Gdansk. And he provides backing singers for Michael Buble and in 2015 he worked with Queen to produce and conduct a highly acclaimed choral version to mark the 40th anniversary of Bohemian Rhapsody.

https://youtu.be/babpG1rj4LY

There will be no entrance fee …just a retiring collection to be split between the church and providing some beer money to the singers.

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

By Vice-Chairman Rich Owen

One of our most frequently discussed topics at the monthly parish council meetings is the state of the roads, and our February meeting was no exception. The recent A3 closures, whilst necessary, have caused a great deal of frustration and unnecessary disturbance to local residents, especially in Bowlhead Green where a National Express coach got stuck on the green itself! It is clear to everyone locally, including David Harmer (Surrey CC), that the diversion signs are not working as well as they should or used to when the tunnel first opened. This may be in part due to the increased use of SatNavs which are blindly followed, but either way, we have escalated the issue with the relevant highways authorities and our local MP.

Whilst on the theme of regularly discussed issues, we also discussed potholes, and again urge all residents to report them using the fixmystreet.com website, along with other issues like blocked footpaths, fly tipping and blocked drains. Even if they have already been reported, our experience is that multiple reports of the same pothole will prompt a faster response.

David Munro, our Waverley Ward councillor, highlighted the ongoing discussions between Waverley and Central government about the new housing targets and planning policies. Whilst everyone appreciates the need for new housing, there is understandable concerns about the possible impact on the rural environment in which we are all fortunate enough to enjoy. David also raised a cautionary note for any individuals currently planning their own works, to make sure they have checked with the relevant authorities on CIL funding. CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) is a charge that local authorities can impose on new developments to fund local infrastructure projects, and can run into the thousands.

On a more upbeat note, we are looking forward to the upcoming VE Day celebrations at the start of May. Preparations are well under way, so please keep an eye out for details in the parish magazine, social media, posters etc. over the coming months, or email

thursleyevents@gmail.com

for more information.

Finally, another date for the diary – our Annual Parish Assembly will take place on the evening of Thursday 24th April.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

THURSDAY 24th APRIL 2025

7.00 pm

THURSLEY VILLAGE HALL

The Parish Council Chairman will be providing his Annual Report and providing updates on activities during the year. Village organizations will be represented.

ALL WELCOME

Please come along and support your village. There will be complimentary drinks and snacks available from 6.30 pm.

THURSLEY 50 Plus LADIES LUNCH

Calling Ladies of Thursley! With the very sad loss of Hilary Barr to the village, we thought it would be good to rejuvenate the regular ladies lunch she used to organise at the pub for senior ladies in the village. So we are suggesting the third Thursday of every month to get together, catch up and maybe offer each other support where it's needed.

It's not meant to be a huge gathering like our Christmas supper, just whoever can make it every now and then to spend time with friends. We'll hold them every month apart from December, and feel free to come as often or as little as you like.

Let Lisa Woods know if you'd like to join us on Thursday, 20th March for the first one. Open to all in the village 50ish plus. Looking forward to seeing you there!

lisa@hedgefarm.co.uk

PAST VILLAGE CELEBRATIONS OF VE/VJ DAY AND A PERSONAL STORY

By Jackie Rickenberg (from the archives of the History Society)

We are marching ever closer to our village celebrations over the weekend of 3rd and 4th of May, commemorating the 80th anniversary of VE and VJ Day. As part of the weekend celebrations, the History Society, led by our Chairman, Sally Scheffers, is putting together an exhibition in the village hall. Further details can be found in this magazine. Looking back in the archives, I came across a History of Thursley Society Newsletter No. 6 dated April 1995 – almost exactly 30 years ago.

Coincidentally, this newsletter contained a pertinent article about the village celebrations for the 50th anniversary of VE and VJ Day, organised by Sally's late father, Peter Scheffers. Keeping it in the family indeed! Here's part of that article.

"Brian Camp and Peter Scheffers decided last year that celebrations should be planned for the 50th anniversary of VE and VJ Day. A provisional programme has been organised.

On Saturday morning, Anthony Hodges is organising a family car borne Prize Scavenger Hunt, which will leave from the cricket pavilion. Later, in the morning H.O.T.S. are mounting an exhibition "Thursley at War", in the village hall, which will go on until 4.30pm. In the evening, the Village Hall Management Committee will host a BBQ and Barn Dance.

Celebrations continue on Sunday; Thursley church are holding an Open Service of Commemoration in the morning. In the afternoon, the cricket green is the focus of attention; a cricket match, Thursley Veterans V Veterans of Thursley, with side shows and cricket club teas.

To encourage everyone to be involved in the forthcoming Victory celebrations, we have launched our Victory Competition.

The competition is open to the younger residents and friends of Thursley who are asked to tell a wartime story of someone they know in words and/or pictures. There will be a £10 cash prize in the various different age groups. Entries should be sent to Sally Scheffers"

(bear in mind this is 30 years ago – and here we are with Sally organising the latest exhibition. Village life!).

From the same newsletter, an article written by Josie Scheffers, Sally's late mother.

Drays & Doodlebugs

Josie Scheffers

"I lived in Weybridge during the war, Woodham to be exact. Our next-door neighbours were the Martins, the merchant bankers and they had a farm. They had three Land Girls to run the British Saanen herd of goats; to grow the corn, peas, beans and potatoes and to look after the three working horses. I started going to the farm at the outbreak of war, when I was nine and helped right through the war years. I worked with the goats and horses and as I became older, I helped the Land Girls with the harrowing and other field work.

My father had a very nice grey cob called Joe, who pulled the family dray. He was on leave from the RAF and harnessed Joe up as we were gong to collect seed potatoes for the Martins. We were on a farm at Pyrford when we heard a Doodlebug overhead. The next thing we knew, it had cut out and my father realised it was coming down. He pulled me off the dray and threw me in the nearest ditch, jumping in on top of me. The bomb went off about two fields away and poor Joe, who had been left standing on the

track, bolted in terror. He raced towards a narrow footbridge, which went over the Basingstoke canal, and was seen by a tractor driver working in a nearby field, who leapt from his tractor and ran towards Joe and managed to stop him in time. I remember it all so clearly and I recall the relief I felt that our treasured Joe had not been killed.

We heard the wonderful news of victory in Europe over the radio and my mother collected us up, dressed us up and we all went to London on the train for the night. We got to London in daylight and made our way to Trafalgar Square where we danced and cheered. There were thousands of people out on the streets and we danced the night away. We came home, the following morning, on the milk train having spent the night of our lives. It was inspirational of my mother to take us all to London and to give us such lasting memories of VE Day".

These are the type of tales and experiences we are looking for, for the forthcoming exhibition in May. Please ask friends and family members to share any wartime recollections – Sally would be most appreciative. Please send them to

scheffers@btinternet.com

VE Day in Trafalgar Square

VE & VJ DAYS 80TH ANNIVERSARY HISTORY SOCIETY'S EXHIBITION

We are now busy pulling together all the strands to create the patchwork quilt that will be our exhibition and contribution to the village commemorations and celebrations of the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

I'm describing the exhibition as a patchwork quilt as there are so many varied stories from all around the world and from air, sea and land. From those who fought; those who refused; those who were incarcerated; those who fought a secret war: those who kept everything going at home; and those whose childhoods were marked forever by the war.

We need to set a deadline of the end of March please for memories and material. That will give us time to decide how to present it all. Any documents will be scanned and the facsimiles will be displayed. Sealed display boxes will hold medals, ephemera and personal items so it will all be kept safe.

Don't forget, recollections, anecdotes and, if possible, memorabilia - all will be welcome.

Please contact me on

scheffers@btinternet.com

or **07887 616541** or **01428 605749**

Please, please make your family members and friends be part of a unique and one off exhibition.

Thank you.

THURSLEY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

By Pat Clake

Looking ahead to finer weather and the Spring, our Spring Show is on Saturday 5th April at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Do come along and see the exhibits. We are always amazed at what grows after the cold, wet, gloomy winter! Please let us know by email (thurselyhortsoc@hotmail.co.uk) by March 27th if you would like to enter your Spring Border or Spring container.

The schedule lists the classes for exhibits, including lots of daffodils. If you are thinking of entering, don't be put off by the descriptions of the different classes. There are always committee members on hand on the day who will advise. The Floral Art classes are interesting and include "Sea Shore" and even "A Little Surprise", a miniature exhibit. In addition you could try your hand by entering class 40: 7 stems from the garden.

The cookery classes include the wonderful challenge of a Swiss Roll. Try again to get that impressive roll! The Walnut and Date Loaf is from a set recipe at the back of the schedule and, in a new departure, you are invited to make chocolate cake from a packet.

The children will be cooking too, by making "Rocky Road" – always popular I gather. They could also create a Vegetable Animal, and a picture of Flowers, in any medium. Children's entries are always special and much commented on by visitors. We have had some wonderful vegetable animals in the past.

The next Horticultural Talk in the Village Hall on Wednesday 19th March and is about growing Olive trees and caring for them. Looking at slopes in the Mediterranean as a starting point, we'll move on to Rotherhill Nurseries in Stedham near Midhurst, which is where our speaker, Mike Burton, comes from. He is an entertaining speaker and provides a well-illustrated talk with lots of interesting information. There will be a raffle and refreshments, and non-members are most welcome.

If you would like to join , or rejoin, the Society to get the full benefits of membership please get in touch by ringing Pat Clake on 01252 706869 or

thurleyhortsoc@hotmail.co.uk

Benefits for your £7 subscription include invitations to some special local gardens, afternoon tea for members and discounts at some local nurseries and at Lindsay Clark Brothers in Churt.

All schedule and membership cards for 2025 have now been distributed to those who have paid their £7. If you have not received them maybe you have forgotten to pay!

THE OLIVE JOURNEY
FROM GROVE TO NURSERY

A talk by Mike Burton

Wednesday 19th March

7.30pm

Thursley Village Hall

Raffle, Wine & soft drinks

Non members welcome

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A FILM & TV MUSIC SUPERVISOR

By Michelle de Vries

I'm definitely not a morning person, but today, I'm on set at 6am, working on a film starring Katherine Waterston, Minnie Driver and Simon Pegg. I'm here as the film's music supervisor, ensuring everything sounds and looks authentic.
Last week, I was in Lincolnshire pre-recording a girls' choir that we chose to perform in the film. We selected a classical piece and had it newly arranged. Today, they'll be miming to that track, and my job is to ensure their performance aligns perfectly with the pre-recording. One of the actors plays piano throughout the film, and while I arranged for her to take lessons, learning piano takes years. So, I've also hired a hand double for the close-up shots, and today, we're filming those scenes.

I became a music supervisor after spending many years in A&R at a music publishing company, where I worked closely with songwriters and emerging bands. My understanding of the studio environment, along with strong connections with managers and recording artists worldwide, has been invaluable in my current role. While legal expertise isn't required, having a solid grasp of copyright and contracts is essential. A deep knowledge of music of all genres is too . There is often a lot of research required which is the fun part of the job for me and has taken me to incredible places like Colombia and Texas.

Shifting schedules are a constant in this industry, which means I'm juggling several projects at once. With my

music industry background, I get hired for many music biopics—recently, I worked on the Robbie Williams Netflix series and a fun project about the history of Motown Records. That one made me the envy of all my music-loving friends—I was sent individual original stem recordings of every artist and instrument they ever recorded. A true highlight was hearing Marvin Gaye's original solo takes of I Heard It Through the Grapevine. Right now, I'm involved in several biopics under NDA, but the process is always similar: securing rights, shaping the musical narrative, and licensing the music.

I also work extensively on sports documentaries. This evening, I'm collaborating with a young poet who I found to write the end credits for a series about Liverpool FC. He's incredibly talented but is new to film work and needs some guidance. I also have to watch the episode to flag incidental music—like crowd chants or ringtone sounds—which can be costly to license. My job is to assess which moments benefit from the music and which can do without. Coming from a musical household, I hate cutting songs—but sometimes, it's necessary.

In other projects, my role involves placing songs in scenes, working with directors to find tracks that enhance the story. A well-placed song can elevate a moment; the wrong one can ruin it. Early in production, we establish a musical palette—a sonic blueprint for the film. For example, on The Capture (BBC), we opted for a modern electronic score. I curated playlists to guide the composer I hired and supervised the orchestral recording in Budapest.

Other projects, like Shaun the Sheep: Farmageddon, require original songs. For something like this, I organise songwriting camps, bringing together writers to generate ideas before matching them with artists. Other times, I approach artists directly with a brief. One particularly fun moment was arranging a duet between indie band The Vaccines and Kylie Minogue— we had so much fun recording it - both parties knew it was a crazy match and entered into the spirit of it.

Of course, the job isn't all creative fun. It's actually extremely stressful, full of long days, weekends working, tight deadlines, legal paperwork, and endless rights clearance. Every song requires approval from multiple parties—songwriters, artists, labels, publishers, and unions. Some songs have up to 12 writers, and tracking them all down can take weeks. I've sent friends in the U.S. to knock on doors in Brooklyn, tracked a '70s songwriter through the California police department, and even contacted a spiritual leader in Manaus to clear a song. Once, I had to negotiate with a hip hop artist serving time in a Jamaican prison. Mistakes are costly and deadlines are fixed so there is no room for any errors.

Budgets are shrinking, and production timelines are getting tighter. Many companies fail to allocate enough resources for music, so part of my job is educating them. I worry that creativity is being sacrificed for speed,

but there are still rewarding moments—like discovering a new band and giving them a break. On the football series, 'Sunderland 'Til I Die', I found a local singer for the opening credits; his song became the unofficial anthem of Sunderland FC, and now, his lyrics are written all over the stadium.

Sometimes, I have to convince legendary bands to license their songs at a lower rate for an indie film. The directors often have platinum desires and we often have copper budgets ! If they say no, I hunt for alternatives that capture the same sentiment but are more affordable. This is actually more fun in a way as you can be a lot more creative and have to think outside the box. Every project has that moment of panic when it feels impossible—but somehow, it always comes together, often at the last minute. (I say as I'm currently panicking over a project I'm on at the moment !)

While premieres are a nice perk, I'm usually already deep into my next project by the time a film is released to go to them. Every day is different—some are exhilarating, others are anxiety-inducing. It's not a job for the faint of heart. Like any film I work on, there are highs, lows, and plenty of drama.

Managing expectations, solving problems, and finding creative solutions—I always say my job is all about fitting a square peg into a round hole.


Parishes of Elstead, Thursley, Shackleford & Peper Harow
Mothering Sunday
St Michael & All Angels Church, Thursley
30 March at 9:45am
Lets come together to celebrate Mothering Sunday & acknowledge those who have shaped families, communities & our faith.
Children's craft activity available
All are welcome
Followed by refreshments
Church in the community, community in the church

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

VE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Save-the-date for a series of Thursley Parish community events in celebration of the 80th anniversary of VE Day.

Sat 3rd - Sun 4th May - WWII History Exhibition

The Thursley History Society will be presenting a unique exhibition of all things pertaining to WWII. All collected from Thursley residents. 10am - 5pm. Thursley Village Hall. Open to all. Contact: Sally Scheffers

Sat 3rd May & Thurs 8th May - Thursley in Bloom

Thursley & Bowlhead Green will be showcasing the best of British springtime with open gardens & a VE day inspired floral extravaganza at Thursley Church. Open gardens are for residents only. Time: 11am - 3pm. Contact: Lisa Woods

Sat 3rd May - "I'll Be Seeing You" in Thursley, Concert

A nostalgic & uplifting sing-along concert with live music & the melodic, smooth sounds of singers Sabrina Dragoni-Long, Wendy Edwards & other guest performers. 6-8pm. St. Michael & All Angels Church. Tickets on sale soon. Contact: Claire Dailly

Sun 4th May - Thursley Village Cricket Match & Picnic

Residents will once again be taking to the field for the annual Thursley cricket match. Weather dependant. To participate please contact: Mike Spencer

Thurs 8th May - Official VE Day Party & Beacon Lighting

A fun evening of fish & chips, music by 'The Cadettes' & the VE Day beacon lighting. Sponsored by Thursley Parish Council. 7pm onwards. Beacon lighting 9:30pm. Three Horseshoes. Tickets & residents only. Contact: Claire Dailly or Michelle De Vries

More information coming soon.

Alternatively, please contact us at : thursleyevents@gmail.com

80

VE DAY

80TH ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

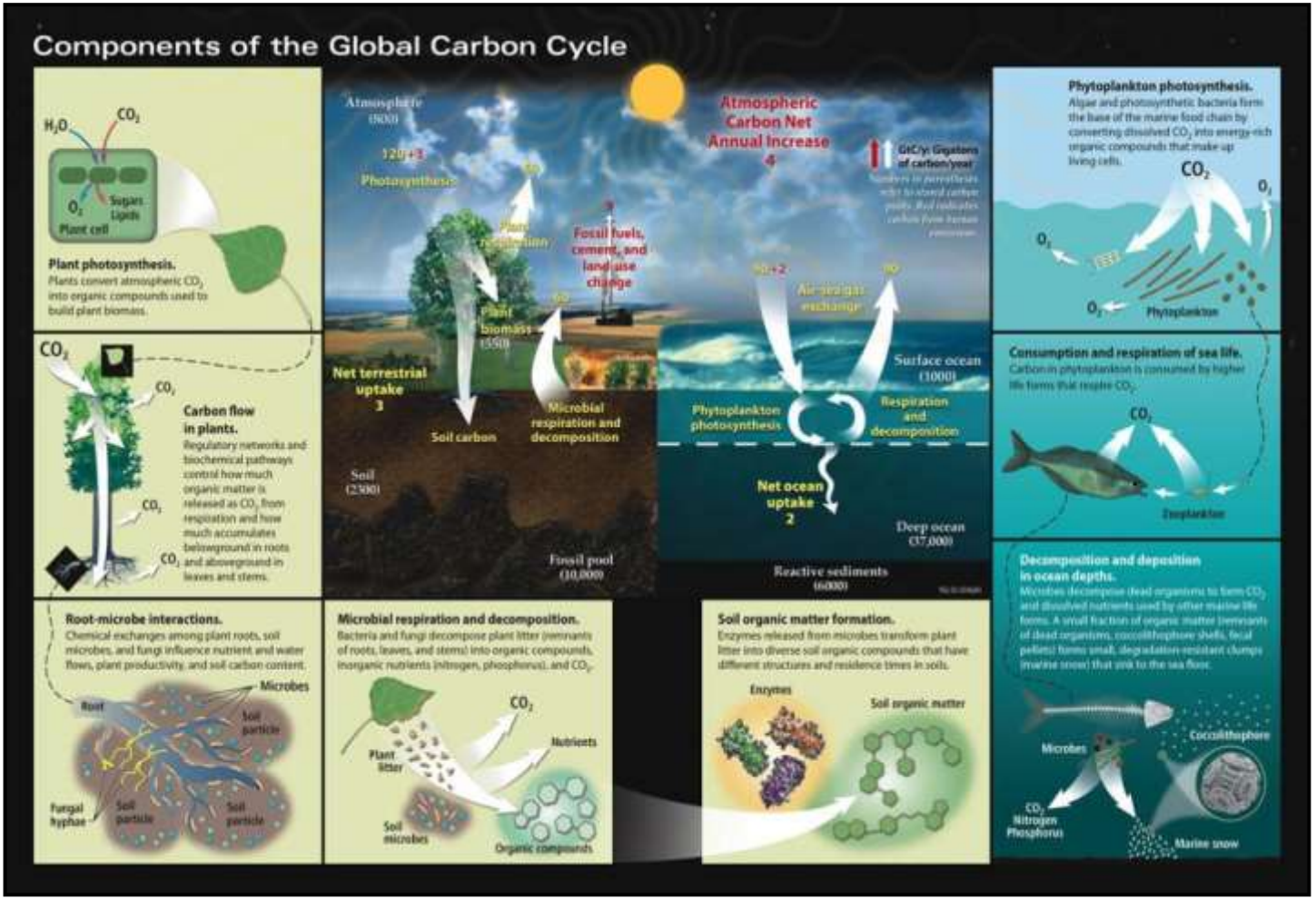
8 MAY 2025

Certificate of Grateful Recognition
8th May 2025

With sincere thanks for your grateful contribution to VE Day 80,
the important, historic Celebration of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day
"Lest we forget the many sacrifices made by millions at home and abroad"

Bruno Peek

Bruno Peek CVO OBE OPR
Originator & Pageantmaster
VE Day 80


Components of the Global Carbon Cycle
Plant photosynthesis.
Plants convert atmospheric CO_2 into organic compounds used to build plant biomass.
Carbon flow in plants.
Regulatory networks and biochemical pathways control how much organic matter is released as CO_2 from respiration and how much accumulates belowground in roots and aboveground in leaves and stems.
Root-microbe interactions.
Chemical exchanges among plant roots, soil microbes, and fungi influence nutrient and water flows, plant productivity, and soil carbon content.
Root
Microbes
Soil particle
Fungal hyphae
Soil particle
Soil particle
Atmosphere (800)
120+3
Photosynthesis
Plant respiration
Fossil fuels, cement, and land-use change
Plant biomass (550)
Net terrestrial uptake 3
Soil carbon
Microbial respiration and decomposition
Soil (2300)
Fossil pool (10,000)
Atmospheric Carbon Net Annual Increase 4
GtC/yr Gigatons of carbon/year
90+2
90
Air–sea gas exchange
Surface ocean (1000)
Phytoplankton photosynthesis
Respiration and decomposition
Net ocean uptake 2
Deep ocean (37,000)
Reactive sediments (6000)
Microbial respiration and decomposition.
Bacteria and fungi decompose plant litter (remnants of roots, leaves, and stems) into organic compounds, inorganic nutrients (nitrogen, phosphorus), and CO_2.
Plant litter
Nutrients
Soil microbes
Organic compounds
Soil organic matter formation.
Enzymes release from microbes transform plant litter into diverse soil organic compounds that have different structures and residence times in soils.
Enzymes
Soil organic matter
Phytoplankton photosynthesis.
Algae and photosynthetic bacteria form the base of the marine food chain by converting dissolved CO_2 into energy-rich organic compounds that make up living cells.
Phytoplankton
Consumption and respiration of sea life.
Carbon in phytoplankton is consumed by higher life forms that respire CO_2.
Zooplankton
Decomposition and deposition in ocean depths.
Microbes decompose dead organisms to form CO_2 and dissolved nutrients used by other marine life forms. A small fraction of organic matter (remnants of dead organisms, coccolithophore shells, fecal pellets) forms small, degradation-resistant clumps (marine snow) that sink to the sea floor.
Coccolithophore
Microbes
Nitrogen
Phosphorus
Marine snow

ECO-FRIENDLY LIVING - IT'S ECO-LOGICAL

By John Swift

Carbon is an essential element of life on Earth. All creatures, plants and other life are made of carbon, so what we eat and exhale is carbon, and it is also the source of the majority of the energy used by human civilization. Most of Earth's carbon is stored in rocks, with the rest in the ocean, atmosphere, plants, soil, and "fossil" fuels. Carbon flows between each of these "reservoirs" in an exchange called the Carbon Cycle, which has slow and fast loops.

The slow carbon cycle acts on 100-200 million year time scales, moving carbon from rocks, to soil, ocean, and atmosphere through a series of chemical reactions and tectonic activity. The fast carbon cycle is much more dynamic, as carbon dioxide is part of the growth process of plants on land and plankton in the sea. The ocean absorbs and desorbs carbon dioxide too. Any change in the cycle that shifts carbon out of one reservoir puts more carbon into the other reservoirs. Changes that put carbon dioxide or methane into the atmosphere result in warmer temperatures on Earth due to their "greenhouse" effect. This is the dilemma we face with using fossil fuels as our source of energy.

To understand this better, take a look at the diagram of the fast carbon cycle. Using data from 2011, this shows the movement of carbon in gigatons (GtC) per year between land, atmosphere, and the oceans. Yellow numbers are natural exchanges, red numbers are human emissions, and white numbers show size of the carbon reservoirs. Probably the first thing you'll notice is the size of the reservoirs compared with the annual flows (800 GtC in the atmosphere, 1,000 GtC in

the oceans' surface, 2,300 GtC in the soil – plus other larger reservoirs, versus annual flows of 120 GtC for photosynthesis and respiration, 90 GtC for ocean adsorption/desorption and 9 GtC for human related emissions). The second thing you'll notice is that the natural cycles of biomass and the oceans manage to absorb about 55% of the fossil fuel, cement and land use emissions. This leaves an annual net gain of 4 GtC of greenhouse gases into the atmospheric reservoir.

You might be thinking "what's the problem –it's a relatively small increase each year?" Firstly, this means we are always increasing the concentration of carbon gases in the atmospheric reservoir, making the greenhouse effect worse each year. The concentration of carbon dioxide is now higher than it has been in the past 800,000 years! Secondly, we have been rapidly increasing the quantity of fossil fuel used each year so the gain is increasing over time. While we probably have a few tens of years to deal with this, it's important that we aim to reach "net-zero" by 2050 to avoid the worst effects of climate change.

What are the options to eliminate, and potentially reverse, this net gain in the atmosphere? In other articles we've looked at how to reduce our "carbon footprint" through decarbonisation of the energy and transportation systems we use, and by reducing consumption generally (to a more sustainable level). It's not easy to make these reductions because it requires huge changes in what we currently do – but the world is making progress despite some political setbacks. Preserving existing forests, choosing renewable energy sources, planting new trees and reversing the degradation of our peat bogs are also ways to reverse the flow of carbon into the atmosphere.

What about burning biomass (wood)? It may seem a bit odd to think of this as an acceptable climate change strategy – but it is, so long as the biomass being burnt is replaced by new biomass, completing the natural cycle. Wood absorbs roughly the same amount of carbon dioxide while it is growing over 40 years as it releases when burnt. This is a short, clean, balanced and discrete carbon cycle. By comparison, burning a fossil fuel adds carbon to the atmosphere that was locked in the ground millions of years ago and is just accumulating as explained above.

If you want more information about any of these ideas or help, please contact **jdswift@btinternet.com**.

1 GtC = 1 gigaton of carbon = 109 metric ton carbon or 1 billion tons of carbon.

BAKEWELL TART

INGREDIENTS
250g marzipan
4 tbsp raspberry jam
For the pastry
125g butter
185g plain flour
Pinch of salt
2 large egg yolks
65g golden caster sugar
1/2 tsp vanilla extract
For the frangipane
125g flaked almonds
125g butter (softened)
85g golden caster sugar
1 large egg
For the drizzle
3 tbsp icing sugar
2 tsp lemon juice

METHOD

1. For the pastry, in a mixing bowl rub the butter and salt into the flour until crumbly.

2. Mix in the egg yolks, sugar and vanilla until the mixture becomes a dough. Roll into a log, cover with cling film and chill for at least 1hr.

3. Take the pastry from the fridge and roll out to a circle to cover a 20cm tart tin, then push it into the tin with your fingers. Chill or freeze the tart case for at least 1 hr.

4. Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas 6 and put a baking sheet inside to heat up. Take the pastry case out of the fridge/freezer and prick the base with a fork, then line with baking parchment, fill with baking beans and cook on the hot baking sheet for 20 mins.

5. Lift off the paper and beans, then bake for 10-15 mins more until golden brown. Remove the pastry case from the oven and leave to cool. Turn down the oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4.

6. To make the frangipane. Tip the almonds into a frying pan and toast over a medium heat until light brown. Tip all but 1 tbsp of the toasted almonds into a food processor with the rest of the frangipane ingredients and blitz to a paste, then set aside.

7. To assemble, roll the marzipan out to a circle that fits the pastry base and lay over the bottom. Spread the jam over the marzipan, then spread over the frangipane. Bake the tart for 45-50 mins until puffed up, golden and set with a very slight wobble. Trim any overhanging pastry and leave to cool.

8. To make the drizzle, mix the icing sugar with the lemon juice in a bowl until you have a thick and drizzly icing. Carefully remove the tart from the tin, drizzle with the icing and scatter with the remaining almonds. Delicious served with cream or ice cream.

WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE FARM THIS MONTH?

By Jo Ranson

Another wet month, just to make a change. We haven't been this wet for this long at this time of year for ages. The cows are desperate to go out, and we are desperate for them to go out too. There have been some cows that have queued by the gate for several weeks - a small protest - I feel that this is what should be happening in their eyes and they are starting to demand we listen. Well, if the forecast is right then this week they can go out. For us it will mean we can cut down on a scraping out a day, use a little less silage in the clamp, and when we bed up, they will be out of the way instead of shuffling them around the houses.

Nick and I have been getting the fencing down around the fields; there is more than usual to sort, mainly because it has been so wet posts have rotted off. With all the wind we had trees and limbs that have fallen on fences and stretched or broken them. Even getting out in the field we have had to be careful not to make a mess with the machinery, so we don't ruin what grass is out there. Matthew has been measuring the grass and it's ok. There would perhaps be a little more than there is at the moment, but it has been colder and not dry enough to get out and put a little fertiliser on. We have put out some dirty water from the lagoon when we can but again, we don't want to make a mess.

Our newly reseeded silage fields have done extremely well over the winter. All the work we did getting rid of the slugs has helped and we may have to take an extremely early cut on those although timing that will be hard as it is on clay ground and will take longer to dry out for us to get on them.

To us this time of year seems to be a milk, scrap, bed up, feed repeat time of year but we have managed to fit in all sorts of jobs into the routine.

The heifers have had their first dose of Huskvac, a vaccine to prevent lung worm. I also pregnancy scan them at the same time, so the poor girls get me at one end and Matthew at the other. One heifer didn't want to participate and against Beth's instructions she jumped the wall to get out of the holding pen but didn't quite make it. The only way out was to go all the way over the wall, but she would then be tricky to get back round again through the ones already done so whilst perched on the wall I scanned her and Matthew dosed her. The next problem was that when we pushed her over the wall, she went the wrong side of the cubicle and got wedged so we had to cut the cubicle rail to get her out.

Amazingly she didn't have a scratch on her and she seeked me out the following day just to prove she was ok and probably laugh at me that she had given us the run around.

Beth has returned from her travels and was thrown straight back in (well she has had five months off working). She came back on a very busy week as everyone else was off. Nick had a meeting for two days in Birmingham, Toby was on a stag do in Benidorm for 4 days, and Matthew was off skiing for 4 days in Slovakia which all overlapped at some point or another, but we managed and so has she. Alice unfortunately has left us due to her father being very unwell, so the CVs are flowing in and I have a couple of interviews to do this afternoon, fingers crossed at least one looks promising.

Nick and I managed to go to Dairy Tech (I did a good restock of notebooks and pens and remembered to bring them home!) It is a good day to find out more about the new things coming into the dairy industry that we have read about and really get the important information on costs. One thing I read about a few months ago was a new way to wash around the parlour that needs no hot water or chemicals. Interesting, that could save quite a bit of money on chemicals and heating water, but having met the people who designed it and sell it it turns out that the very fourth wash had to be hot and with chemicals and cost £30,000 to fit and had a £2,000 service fee every quarter - doesn't seem a good deal now. The salesman also said it would rid us of a lot of 200 litre blue barrels – we explained to him

there isn't much we can't make from a blue barrel and we didn't want to lose them (even my chicken house is made from a blue barrel by Nick (a nickglu not an eglu)). We did however find other information we need on housing types and styles (some of the cubicles could do with a big re-fit), some bits of machinery, solar and wind power resources. Also bumped into lots of farming friends so it's good for a catch up too.

It won't be long before the 18-month-old beef cattle go and we have a couple people coming this week to have a look at them. They will hopefully go beginning to mid-March as we will need to start thinking about taking down the temporary fences and getting ready to empty the lagoon and spread it on the maize ground.

January seems a long month and February only a few days shorter but seems weeks shorter - time is flying at the moment with lots coming up. We will get the fencing finished, muck out, cows out and we really could do with a dry month or two now.

Give it a Grow

I'm Self-Cultivating!

By Debbie Spencer

MARCH

'The secret of getting ahead is getting started', Mark Twain

Clean start

First job for Spring is to clean the greenhouse and any gardening tools. Clean the glass inside and out to get rid of moss and algae and to allow more light in. Wash all the shelves and floor where bacteria and viruses might be lurking - I use a regular Eco kitchen product which I reckon is more environmentally friendly. It's amazing how many slugs and snails you find hiding in the dark corners lying in wait to ambush your first seedlings. Likewise clean all your tools before starting any tasks- I save old socks and faded t shirts for these cleaning jobs to use as rags and then dispose after use.

Spring into action

If you are feeling energetic, get out the spade and turn over the soil in the beds ready for your first seedlings, but don't plant out tender seedlings yet. If you can, cover your veg garden either with cloches or polythene to warm up the soil, ready for April.

By mid to late March you can sow outdoors early peas, like Feltham first, early potatoes such as Charlotte and Belle de Fonteney and if the temperature reaches 12 deg C early carrots (Early Nantes) will germinate.

Get ahead

Get ahead by sowing seeds in the

greenhouse or on a sunny window sill now. Beetroot, lettuces, some beans and courgettes, sweet peas, sunflowers are all suitable for early sowing indoors at this time.

Chit for chips (or mash!)

It's not too late to chit potatoes if you didn't do them in Jan or Feb. It's okay to chit first, second and maincrop all at the same time, or if you haven't the inclination to chit you can plant straight in the ground or large tubs from mid-late March for first and second earlies and from April for maincrop. Chitting is a way of forcing the potatoes to grow shoots before you plant them in the ground which will result in a bigger crop. Put them in egg boxes or seed trays with the small 'eyes' facing upwards storing them in a cool, light frost free place out of reach of mice until 1 -2cm of shoot growth appears.

Tender tomatoes

Tender veggies like a tomatoes, aubergines, chillies, peppers and squashes can be sown in trays under cover now in a greenhouse or sunny window sill. They can be pricked out into pots once two true leaves have appeared- always handle the leaves not the stem.

Blooms for June

A quick update on project 'Blooms for June' wedding flower project. The sweet peas I sowed in late October have so far survived the winter. Under guidance (from Amanda Flint Roberts), in late Jan I pinched out the main stems back to 2 strong pairs of leaves which makes side shoots and promotes further root growth. I will plant these outside in March. I sowed more sweet pea seeds in February and these are a bit 'leggier' and will be more tender so I will wait until late spring before planting out.

The alliums are just starting to poke up - I'm hoping for a huge display in June as I think I may have planted over 300, from different suppliers so it will be interesting to compare the results.

Meanwhile the nigella, cornflowers, Ammi majus and larkspur seeds sown in January are starting to grow - and I will sow the other half of the seed packets in late March as a back up.

ON BEING LATE…….

By Lizzie Young

Kristin Scott Thomas has a great line at the start of the classic film Four Weddings and a Funeral: Hugh Grant, supposed best man, rushes into the church, skirting around a bride about to walk down the aisle, and as he purloins a buttonhole from his friend Fiona, she opines 'There's a certain greatness to your lateness'. And she's right. We all have friends who have a certain greatness to their lateness – the kind whose neurological pathways are clearly different, so that when someone says 7.30, they actually hear 8.30.

That's not us. Oh no. In my house, we keep Young time. It's the opposite of Hugh Grant in that film. We are pathologically on time. As in 'on time is actually a bit late' on time. Please don't think I'm extolling this as a virtue. It's a bit uptight, to be honest, with a hint of supercilious superiority if you're not careful. But it is what it is. (Does this very modern expression irritate you, along with we are where we are? It does me, a bit. But we are where we are.) We both arrived in the marriage with this tendency, sort of doubling the impact. My dad hated lateness. He always said it sent the message that you believed your time was more important than the time of the person who had to wait for you. I asked Dave to what he attributed his need to be on time. His dad, too, was the catalyst. They had 'army time' in his home, growing up in the shadow of his father's long, long war. 'Army time' served David very well while he was publishing in the US – he arrived early to pitch for a book called Lone Survivor, the autobiography of Marcus Lottrell, a fearsomely brave Navy SEAL and won – the other publisher was offering more money, but they showed up late.

Young time involves us building absurd time cushions into our plans. I can't recall that my children were ever late for school. Only Acts of God on the motorways have ever caused us to miss trains or planes. We remember those occasions vividly, scarred. One such roadworks from hell made us late for the wedding of a great friend. I had to do my make up in the car, and put my tights on, which can't be a safe thing to

do at 70mph, even if you're the passenger and not the driver. We were very Hugh Grant, skittling past the bride in the vestry to take our seats, apologising wildly as we did so. Only after the ceremony did my amused husband suggest I visited the loo, where I discovered that in the panic I'd only put eye make up on one of my eyes. I once built in so much Young time on an airport run in NYC that when we got to JFK and realised the flight was from Newark, we actually had time to get there.

We've evolved now, like the Kevin Costner character in Waterworld who develops gills to cope with the flooded planet. We set alarms, but they never go off, because we both wake up minutes before they are due to. We call it Spidey powers (no, I don't know why – is a family even a family if they don't have loads of weird names for stuff that other people don't get? Maybe it's a Spiderman thing…). It has never failed. We've just been on holiday – it was a long drive. We were due to set off at 5.30. Spidey powers woke us at 4am, and off we went.

Some of my favourite people, though, are pathologically late. You get used to planning for it. But the lucky late are a thing, aren't they? We call that Jago time – named for a dear friend of our elder daughter from her university days. Epic lateness at every turn. On graduation day, we had huffed and hustled and organised ourselves to be earlier than posted times. Family walk alongside graduands down to the Senate House, and file in to watch the ancient ceremony. We didn't want to miss a minute, and we hoped for a good view. Mr and Mrs Jago decided to stop off for a takeaway coffee and sauntered in approximately 15 seconds before the ceremony started, and 15 minutes after they were supposed to be seated, sliding nonchalantly into the front row with not a hair out of place, so close that if the Chancellor had had a lisp, they'd have been in the drench zone. The thing is, had we tried to grab a caffeine hit, we'd have been stuck behind someone giving a more complicated order than Sally in When Harry Met Sally, shut out completely and missed the whole thing. They're the lucky late: the kind of people who walk into an airport well inside the two-hour rule and walk in a leisurely way through the whole place, never stopping until they reach their row on the flight. We never could be. The ones who don't book stuff, and get better seats just showing up. Good job they're utterly charming.

We're a bit late with the work at our new cottage. It was probably inevitable, it is certainly not fatal, and time passes quickly, as we all know. It will happen. In that strange way life has, it's thrown out some perspective, and that's been helpful. We'll take a deep breath, we'll try and be more Jago, and we'll be in when we're in.

A TALK BY A HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR - STEVEN FRANK

Frensham Heights School, 14th February, 2025 (Sally Scheffers)

Looking for material for the VE & VJ Day Exhibition I visited Farnham Museum recently. I was looking at some old postcards on display and the caption caught my eye.

"Frensham Heights also gave home to Jewish refugee children during the Second World War, and was one of only a few schools to welcome children who didn't speak English. Mostly older boys, their numbers grew to nearly ten percent of the school by 1939".

Driving back from pottery class ten days ago I decided to go in and make some enquiries. The very friendly receptionist took my details down and I left.

Checking (unusual for me!) my spam folder two days ago I found an email from the Head of History inviting me to the school the next day. A former pupil, Steven Frank, would be talking of his experiences in Holland and then Czechoslovakia during the war. Steven is a Holocaust survivor.

Yesterday I met Steven Frank. He is 89 years old. He is a short, elderly gentleman with poor eyesight who has spent his retirement years talking to schools about his early life and making sure the Holocaust is never, ever forgotten. Yesterday's talk was his 980th and he wants to reach his 1000th before he dies.

The theatre was packed with the older year groups and the headmaster in his introduction said, *"To bear witness is to witness".*

Steven described his idyllic first years in Amsterdam, his father was a well-respected lawyer within the music publishing business, his mother was a forward-thinking English musician. Steven was the middle of three brothers. Theirs was a non-practising Jewish family. And then things started to change. Gradually at first after the Nazis had invaded Holland in 1940. Restrictions on where they could go, when they could go shopping, how they could get around – Jews were not premitted to travel on buses or trains, or ride bicycles. Steven's father stayed at his job which he walked to every day but he was also an active member of the Dutch Resistance. One day he kissed his wife and children goodbye as he left for work. He never returned. Seized, tortured and then herded onto a cattle truck to Auschwitz, he was sent straight to his death in the gas chambers in January 1943. He was 37 years old.

Steven showed us his yellow star all Jews were forced to wear at all times. If you put on your coat you had to remember to put it on your coat. If you took your coat off you had to remember to put your star on your jumper or shirt. Failure to wear your star carried a death penalty. And the police carried out spot checks. Even the lettering on the star had been created to insult; the word "Jood" (dutch for Jew) was written in a hebrew style font – except hebrew is read right to left!

Steven also had a piece of yellow cotton printed with 63 Nazi Stars of David printed on it. Each star represented 95,000 Jewish men, women and children murdered in The

Holocaust. Each star is all the people (children included) in this village multiplied by at least 120 times and there are 63 stars on Steven's flimsy sheet.

Without her husband, Steven's mother earned much needed money by acting as a barber to her Jewish neighbours. When her husband had been taken away his friends had bravely written to the Nazi authorities pleading for his release. Whilst this petition did not save his life it certainly saved the lives of his wife and sons.

Instead of being deported to the East like many of the Dutch Jews, Steven and his family were moved to Barneveld Castle in March 1943. There the young Steven was given a liitle plot of ground and a packet of radish seeds, this resulted in his life-long love of gardening. But in September the family moved again to Westerbork, a transit camp, where Dutch Jews were held until they were sent to the East and Auschwitz-Birkenau extermination camp.

I**n** Westerbork they were in a large hut containing 660 people in each hut. Rough bunk beds, three high, were packed in with no central passageway so they had to climb over each other to get to their bed. There was no quiet and certainly no privacy. There was an open latrine in the central area outside with lengths of wooden plank with holes cut into the plank suspended over a trench. This was used by men and women with, if they were lucky, a small piece of newspaper to use as toilet paper. Given that they were, due to the insanitary conditions, all suffering from dysentry the inmates were in a terrible state.

Things got worse when Steven's hut was strafed by gunfire from a British fighter plane. Steven managed to avoid the bullets but a man in his hut was riddled and Steven said he had never seen so much blood. Later Steven was attacked by the guard dogs which were unleashed on him when he strayed to close to the perimeter fence. Badly bitten on his arms and legs he was lucky to survive.

After their hut was destroyed the family was moved. In the new hut he was befriended by a man who was growing tomatoes beside the hut. The man showed Steven how to water the plants and how to pinch out the side shoots. The man said that he was showing Steven so that he could look after the plants when the man was no longer there. And then he was gone.

Later, it was Steven's turn to leave. He, his mother and two brothers, were loaded onto cattle trucks and endured a forty plus hour rail journey. The stench of filthy people, filthy clothes, urine, diarrohea, and vomit, with limited ventilation, was suffocating and everyone tried to scrabble up the side of the truck to gasp at the four air vents in the truck.

Their destination was Theresienstadt in Czechoslovakia. This again was a transit camp before the final journey to the extermination camps. At Thereienstadt disease was rife but his mother took a job in the hospital laundry which was the only supply of hot water amongst the 44,000 people there. She risked contracting one of many diseases but she could keep herself and her sons clean and in exchange for small bits of bread she secretly took in other people's washing. His mother fed her sons the extra ration of bread soaked in hot water to keep them alive.

On the 9th May, 1945 the camp was liberated by the Russians and Steven said if they had been a week later they

would have all been dead. Fifteen thousand children had been sent to Thereienstadt and ninety three (including Steven and his two brothers) survived. Freedom took another month as by then there was an outbreak of typhus and they all had to remain in the camp to be cared for by the Red Cross.

Steven's mother decided to try to return to her family in England and managed to get on an unofficial R.A.F. transport flight. They were left on the side of the runway at Croydon (now Heathrow) airport with no idea where they were. Luckily, another official flight arrived and they joined the other refugees.

Once settled back in England, Steven went to Frensham Heights School aged fourteen. His lack of previous formal education was a handicap as he "didn't know how to learn". After school, leaving with two O' Levels, he did his National Service and then applied himself to regain his lost years of schooling. At evening school he did his O and A' Levels and a degree in Chemical Engineering.

Steven is now the educator. His audience was fascinated by his story and his contained rage, eighty five years on, at what happened to his race drove his message home to his young audience.

Thanks to Frensham Heights School and Matt Burns Head of History, I have borne witness.

Thanks to Steven Frank B.E.M., I have witnessed.

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