

THURSLEY PARISH MAGAZINE

St Michael & All Angels

NOVEMBER 2025

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IN REMEMBRANCE



We Shall Keep The Faith

By Moina Michael

Oh! you who sleep in Flanders Fields,
Sleep sweet – to rise anew!
We caught the torch you threw
And holding high, we keep the Faith
With All who died.

We cherish, too, the Poppy red
That grows on fields where valour led;
It seems to signal to the skies
That blood of heroes never dies,
But lends a lustre to the red
Of the flower that blooms above the
dead
In Flanders Fields.

And now the Torch and Poppy Red
We wear in honour of our dead.
Fear not that ye have died for naught;
We'll teach the lesson that ye wrought
In Flanders Fields.

PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE OF 14TH NOVEMBER 2025 FOR SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES TO THE DECEMBER 2025 ISSUE OF THURSLEY PARISH MAGAZINE.

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Please note: Due to building works all services held at St James', Elstead will be moving to St James' Primary School, Thursley Road, Elstead GU8 6DH from 1st May until December 2025.

NOVEMBER

SUNDAY 2nd All Saints Day	9.15am	Communion at St James' Primary School, Elstead
	9.45am	Communion at St Michael's, Thursley
	10.30am	Modern Service with Communion at St James' Primary School, Elstead
	4.00pm	Service of Remembering & Hope at St Nicholas, Peper Harow
SUNDAY 9th Remembrance Sunday	10.00am	Service at Elstead Village Hall
	10.15am	Service at St Mary's, Shackleford
	10.45am	Service at St Michael's, Thursley
SUNDAY 16th 2 Before Advent	9.45am	Communion at St Michael's, Thursley
	10.30am	Modern Service at St James' Primary School, Elstead
SUNDAY 23rd Christ the King	10.00am	Communion at St Nicholas, Peper Harow
SUNDAY 30th Advent Sunday	10.00am	Communion at St Nicholas, Peper Harow
	10.30am	Modern Service at St James' Primary School, Elstead

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NOVEMBER

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2nd Jackie RICKENBERG

16th Sabrina DRAGONI-LONG

VILLAGE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER

Tuesday 4th	7.00pm	Thursley Parish Council Meeting. Village Hall. All welcome.
Wednesday 12th	7.30pm	Horts Society AGM. Refreshments will be available. Village Hall. See p22.
Saturday 15th	10.00am	Churchyard Working Party. St Michael & All Angels Church. All help welcome.
Thursday 20th	12.30pm	Thursley 50+ Ladies Lunch. Three Horseshoes Pub. Booking essential. Contact Lisa Woods on 07710 070412.
	7.30pm	History Society AGM & Talk on Secret Surrey. Doors open at 7pm. See p13.
Saturday 22nd	11.00am	Bishop of Dorking invited to bless the altar and inter the ashes of the Barrs. St Michael & All Angels Church. All are welcome.
Sunday 23rd	11.00am	Village Open Meeting to discuss refurbishment of Cricket Pavillion. Cricket Pavillion. All welcome. See p14.
Saturday 29th	4.45pm	Advent Concert with Ovis Cantorum. St Michael & All Angels Church. Followed by a musical torchlight procession down to the Clump.
	6.30pm	Christmas Tree Switch On, with mulled wine & sausage rolls, on the Clump. All welcome.

PLEASE NOTE NEW BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR

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REMEMBRANCE & HOPES FOR PEACE

By Revd Hannah Moore

Every November, as the world dons poppies and bows its head in silence, Remembrance Sunday calls us to remember not only the fallen but also the cost of conflict. In churches and at cenotaphs across Britain and beyond, we pause to honour those who sacrificed their lives in war, while yearning for a future free from violence. Yet, as we look around at today's global landscape—with wars raging in Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and elsewhere—the urgent need for peace is as relevant as ever.

Remembrance Sunday, observed this year on the 9th of November, commemorates the end of the First World War. It is a day steeped in solemnity, marked by the haunting notes of the Last Post, the laying of wreaths, and a nationwide two-minute silence. At its heart, this day is not only about remembering those who perished, but also about reinforcing our collective resolve that their sacrifice was not in vain. It is a poignant reminder of the devastating consequences of war and the preciousness of peace.

The poppy, worn as a symbol of remembrance, also stands as a silent plea: "Never again." Yet, the world continues to grapple with the spectre of conflict, from the ongoing war in Ukraine and violence in Gaza, to civil unrest in Sudan and Yemen. Each new headline is a painful reminder that peace is fragile, and that the lessons of the past must inform our actions today.

Throughout the Bible, peace is not merely the absence of conflict, but a deep, abiding state of harmony—shalom in Hebrew. The scriptures frequently urge believers to seek peace and pursue it. In the Old Testament, Isaiah's vision of a time when "*nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall*

they learn war any more" (Isaiah 2:4) encapsulates a hope that has resonated across generations. Similarly, the New Testament emphasises the peacemaking role of individuals: "*Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God*" (Matthew 5:9).

These teachings serve as a moral compass, challenging us to resolve our differences and work towards reconciliation. The biblical call to love one's neighbour and forgive one's enemies is as radical now as it was two thousand years ago. In a world torn apart by division and violence, these ancient words offer a blueprint for healing and unity.

Despite the horrors of two world wars, many conflicts that have waged in the years since 1918 and 1945, the world remains deeply troubled. The war in Ukraine has brought devastation to the heart of Europe, with millions displaced and thousands of lives lost. The ongoing conflict in the Middle East continues to claim innocent lives, while forgotten wars in places like the Democratic Republic of Congo and Myanmar persist with little international attention.

The causes of these conflicts are many—ethnic tensions, political power struggles, religious differences, and competition over resources. Yet, the suffering they inflict is universal. Children grow up traumatised, families are torn apart, and entire communities are left in ruins. The international community's response is often hampered by competing interests and a lack of political will, leaving countless civilians caught in the crossfire.

The need for peace is not just the responsibility of governments and world leaders; it is a charge that each of us must shoulder. Remembrance Sunday

asks us to look inward and consider what steps we can take—however small—to promote understanding, kindness, and reconciliation in our own lives. Whether it's reaching out to a neighbour, supporting humanitarian efforts, or advocating for justice, every act of peacemaking contributes to the greater good.

Churches, inspired by biblical teachings, often play a vital role in peacebuilding—offering sanctuary to refugees, fostering dialogue between divided communities, and reminding us that true peace begins in the human heart. In these ways, faith and remembrance work hand in hand, urging us to remember the past, confront the present, and hope for a better future.

As the world pauses on Remembrance Sunday, let us do more than remember. Let us recommit ourselves to the pursuit of peace, drawing inspiration from the wisdom of scripture and the sacrifices of those who came before us. In a world still marred by violence, our prayers and actions for peace have never been more necessary. The challenge is great, but the reward—a world where children no longer fear the sound of gunfire, and nations resolve their differences with words, not weapons—is worth striving for.

Let us wear our poppies not only as symbols of remembrance, but as emblems of hope and determination: that, one day, peace will prevail.

Hannah

THE BLESSING OF THE ALTAR & THE INTERMENT OF ASHES

The Bishop of Dorking will be visiting our Church on Saturday 22nd November at 11am to bless the altar that was kindly donated by Pat and Hilary Barr and at the same time the interment of their ashes will take place.

All are welcome.



Thursley History Society will be having its AGM (very brief!) and social gathering at the village hall on Thursday, 20th November 2025, at 7:30pm. Following his highly acclaimed talk on the Atlantic Wall on Hankley Common, Paul McCue of Secret WW2 will give a talk on Secret

Surrey covering secret establishments in WW2 within a 10 mile radius of Thursley.

£7.50 including wine or other drink, pay on the door.

THURSLEY PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE

By Chairman James Mendelsohn



One of the critical responsibilities of any Parish Council is to manage and maintain the physical assets owned by the village. Within Thursley, these are relatively limited. The Village Hall was passed to a new Community Interest Organisation some 10 years ago, leaving only the cricket pavilion and the playground as assets still owned by the village.

For some time now, the Parish Council has been concerned by the state of the cricket pavilion. It is now over 20 years old and gradually, and perhaps inevitably, over the years it has quietly begun to deteriorate. We have therefore felt that it was important to address the situation before the structure becomes a real liability for the village – and its finances. In addition, we have felt that the pavilion could, if refurbished in the correct way, become a much broader community asset that would benefit not only people in Thursley, but also from further afield.

With this in mind, we have been exploring options as to how the pavilion could be refurbished and indeed the legal and funding structure that we would need to put in place to achieve what we believe could become a real community asset.

With some very generous funding support, these plans have now progressed and with leadership being provided by Mike Spencer, we are now at a stage where we would like to hold an open meeting to discuss the draft plans, hear your views as to how you would like to see the facility used, and explain how we would like to move things forward. This meeting will be held in the cricket pavilion on Sunday 23 November at 11 am. I very much hope that as many as possible will attend.

Talking about the village community, plans are now well under way to have a lovely Christmas tree on the Clump once again. Following the success and very positive feedback received over the last couple of years, Julie Langley and her team will again be erecting the tree in late November ahead of the switch-on ceremony on Saturday 29 November at around 6.30pm. We are very grateful to Julie and her team for all the hard work that will go in to making this event a success. The switch on will follow the Advent Carol Concert by Ovis Cantorum beginning in the church at 4.45pm on the same day, full details of which you will find elsewhere in the magazine.

As a Parish Council, we are delighted to be able to support this important village event by again providing the Christmas Tree and, for the first time this year, helping out with some of the liquid refreshments.

The next Parish Council meeting will take place in the Village Hall on Tuesday 4 November at 7.00 pm. All are welcome.

NEW CHURCH CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER

By Richelle Smith



Hello, my name is Richelle and I am the new Church Children and Families worker covering Elstead, Thursley, Shackleford and Peper Harow. I live locally and have 3 children at St James' School in Elstead. I have also been volunteering at St James' Church in Elstead as the Modern Service Leader for the last few years. If you have children and have attended one of the St James' Crib (nativity) Services then you might recognise me as

the slightly over enthusiastic person on the stage who attempts to keep the kids under control while at the same time throwing bags of Haribo into the crowd!

I am excited about getting to know the Thursley community better and I hope that through this new role I will be able to connect with and bless some of your families. I have several new activities that I am working towards launching in January. I hope that these activities will be of value to your community and fun for the kids. I will be sharing more details of these ideas in the coming months so look out for my next article!

If you would like to meet up for a coffee and a chat sometime or if you have any questions then I would love to hear from you.

richelle@parishesofetsph.org

MEN OF THURSLEY CHRISTMAS SUPPER

Thursday 18th December

The Three Horseshoes
7.30pm

Booking Essential

Contact: peterrikenberg5@gmail.com



A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A JEWELLERY AUCTIONEER & PSYCHOTHERAPIST

By Sarah O'Brien



Acknowledgements usually appear at the end of a book, but for this article, I would like to get mine in early. Thank you, Clare Balding, for your 'A Life in the Day' in today's Sunday Times Magazine. Certain sentences resonated and have helped me frame what I want to write here. It was lucky it was published today, the due date for submission of my piece.

The first sentence that resonated was: "*I never have a typical day*". However, she does go on to say that the first job of the day, when you have a dog, is a walk, and most mornings will find Milo and me wandering around the churchyard. It is my favourite place to start the day. It feels very tranquil, there is a wonderful view of the village and surrounding countryside, and we are amongst old friends and neighbours lying at peace there. Milo tries to be respectful of where he lifts his leg.

So far, so typical, after which my day could look like anything depending on where I am in the Phillips Jewels auction cycle. I may be working with our team of Specialists to help consign jewels for one of our upcoming sales in Geneva, Hong Kong or New York, or it may be time to focus on selling the sales: securing press and client interest in the jewels. This season, it has been easy to secure both.

We are selling a collection of jewels once owned by Gladys Moore Vanderbilt, Countess Széchény, great-granddaughter of Cornelius Vanderbilt, the wealthy industrialist who built Grand Central Station in New York. The jewels include a delicate floral diamond brooch designed by Cartier, which was one of a series of 'Lily' sprays forming the Vanderbilt tiara. There is also a brooch by Tiffany which centres on a



spectacular sapphire weighing 42.68 carats. The stone was mined in Kashmir in the late 19th Century and displays a deeply saturated, rich, velvety hue of deep cornflower blue. Kashmir sapphires are some of the most sought-after gemstones in the world. This collection of jewels combines the perfect trifecta: exceptional stones, design by some of the great jewellery 'Houses' or 'Maisons' and great provenance. If you would like to bid...Phillips Jewels Auction V, Geneva, 10 November 2025. I love the changes between all four seasons in nature, especially out walking with Milo, but throughout my working life, in fashion and then in the auction world, the years have been split into just two 'seasons': Spring/Summer and Autumn/Winter.

The idea of a career in jewellery led me to study in New York, where I graduated as a Gemologist (only one 'm' in the American spelling) from the Gemological Institute of America (GIA), located at the corner of 47th Street and Fifth Avenue in Manhattan. I had been enrolled to start at the GIA in California, but a chance meeting with a New Yorker visiting London led to me being told I seemed "more NY than LA". I changed my plans based on that one comment and the fact that he and I hit it off. We are still great friends today. Sometimes my tendency to make last-minute plans or decisions isn't helpful, but there are plenty of upsides too. Many of my life's greatest moments have come from chance meetings or conversations and spontaneous decision-making.

One of those chance meetings happened in my twenties, just before I left London to study in NY, and it led to me working with Christian Louboutin for ten years. He and I had been lent a mutual friend's flat on the same weekend by mistake, so after figuring out who was sleeping where, we chatted all things shoes. Six months later, I was finding it very hard to secure work in the jewellery industry in NY, due to visa-related insurance issues. Christian offered me an opportunity to stay in the city that I had loved from the moment I arrived, so I pivoted from jewels to shoes. At that time, there were only seven of us in the Louboutin company, split between Paris and NY, running two shops and working with Christian and the factories in Italy to produce the bi-annual shoe collections with their now famous, red soles.



The auction world is less creative in the sense that we have no hand in designing and producing the pieces we sell, but I find creative outlets in helping plan and work on the gallery design for the Private Selling Exhibitions that Phillips holds for contemporary jewellery designers, where clients can buy instantly at a set price, rather than waiting to bid in an auction. Sometimes the auctions themselves require special treatment of the viewing gallery set-up and catalogue design. That was certainly true for the sale of The Elizabeth Taylor Collection, sold in 2011 whilst I was working at Christie's.

Meetings to discuss the preview locations and the catalogue production for this extraordinary collection ran from the sublime to the ridiculous and seemed always to be viewed through a haze of purple. 'Miss Taylor's' favourite colour. One colleague frequently described Elizabeth Taylor as the 'last great movie star', and certainly she was

the last one I know of to own a truly great collection of jewels. None of her seven husbands (eight marriages, she married Richard Burton twice) got away without showering her with jewels. Burton even had to buy her three ping pong matches because he lost three ping pong matches with her! Most movie stars today borrow the jewels they wear at events like the Oscars. The stars dazzle, and the Brands get great exposure.

If anyone tells you that the actress Julianne Moore was the first person to wear Elizabeth Taylor's Bulgari emerald suite after she died, I am here to set them straight. Sarah O'Brien had one of her best jewel moments at 11.30 pm on a Sunday in 2011 in the viewing galleries of Christie's London. There was just time to capture a photo of me wearing as many of E.T.'s jewels (as we came to refer to them) as I could manage, before we had to pack the



pieces up to be shipped to the next preview location. Photographic evidence below. The jaunty (aka: wonky) angle of the tiara reflects my exhilarated exhaustion after finishing a week of running the London preview. An hour later, I was sitting, eating Kentucky Fried Chicken with an apron over my cocktail dress. There had been no time to eat all day. Sadly, this moment wasn't captured on film.

That KFC meal is symbolic of the fact that for all the high-octane fun and sometimes glamour of the fashion and auction worlds, there are many more unremarkable moments, although some of these become remarkable moments by being slightly surreal. I have sent jewellery catalogues to inmates in US penitentiaries - one of the men was the former owner of one of NY's toniest jewellery shops - and I have found myself fully dressed, but barefoot, in a shower in a Dubai hotel bathroom, handing million-dollar jewels to colleagues to show to clients sitting in the adjacent room. The shower had been the only place left for me to stand without stepping on one of the jewels we had laid out. Equally surreal was visiting an Emirati Sheikha at her home. We were met by her head of security in a layby somewhere in Dubai and asked to follow him to her palace. When we left a couple of hours later, we still didn't know exactly where we had been or which of the extensive Al Maktoum family we had just spent time with.

Despite enjoying my work with shoes and jewels, I always craved something additional with greater emotional depth

and connection. For a while in my thirties, I found this working as a volunteer for ChildLine, answering calls from children one afternoon a week at the Islington switchboard. More recently, I decided to train formally as a psychotherapist in my spare time. Thankfully, I was able to continue training online throughout COVID, and my Phillips auction work transitioned well to being done remotely.

I am very lucky that lockdown brought me more blessings than difficulties. I hadn't considered living out of London before, and I certainly hadn't considered a move back to Thursley or living in the same house as my parents! But trialling it for a few months in 2020 worked so well that I made a permanent move in 2022. I qualified as a psychotherapist in 2023. Even if I feel tired at the end of a day of auction work, from home or in the office in London, plus a long walk with my Milo, I really look forward to seeing my clients a couple of evenings a week. I always finish the sessions having learned more about them, and often more about myself. There is a saying that you get the clients you need!

So today my life is a mixture of jewels, people I love and a dog I adore, and to quote Clare Balding (twice), *"all I need to keep me healthy and happy is fresh air"* on a walk with Milo and *"I am never happier than when sitting around a table chatting - especially if someone else has cooked"*.

ADVENT CONCERT - SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER

St Michael & All Angels Church

The concert is a blend of music from each of the Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Greek and Russian Orthodox and Anglican traditions, which in turn knit together chants, carols and hymns spanning the last 500 years.

Traditional Advent organ music by JS Bach will be played from about 4.45pm, culminating in Marcel Dupre's arrangement of Bach's Kyrie, Gott Heilige Geist: God the Holy Ghost. Whether the organist has available the 9,999 pipes at the Royal Albert Hall, or the few hundred at Thursley, the requirement is to use the lot....if ever there

was a work to sum up God "clearing His throat" in time for Advent, this is it.

The Advent story will be told through a series of carols, culminating in the congregation gathering outside the Church for a torchlight procession down to the Clump for the lighting of the village Christmas Tree and refreshments.

This is a non-ticket event but the PCC have asked for generous contributions to the collection to cover the costs of bringing in Ovis Cantorum and also towards the maintenance of the Church building.

BEFORE THE CONCERT - ORGAN SOLOS

Wachtet Auf:	<i>JS Bach</i>
Vom Himmel Hoch variations:	<i>JS Bach</i>
Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist:	<i>JS Bach</i>

PROGRAMME

Matin Responsary:	<i>Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina</i>
Christum Wir Sollen Loben Schoen:	<i>Michael Praetorius</i>
Sung Collect for Advent:	<i>Plainsong/Praetorius</i>
Lord's Prayer:	<i>Bernard Rose</i>
Introit from Requiem, Opus.9:	<i>Maurice Durufle</i>
Kyrie from Requiem, Opus. 9:	<i>Maurice Durufle</i>
Magnificat:	<i>Herbert Howells Collegium Regale</i>
Adam Lay y Bounden:	<i>Boris Ord</i>
On Jordan's Bank the Baptists cry:	<i>Trad/Winchester New*</i>
This is the Record of John:	<i>Orlando Gibbons</i>
Gabriel's Message:	<i>Trad/David Willcocks</i>
A Spotless Rose:	<i>Herbert Howells</i>
Hymn to the Virgin:	<i>Benjamin Britten</i>
Cherry Tree Carol:	<i>Trad/Stephen Cleobury</i>
O Magnum Mysterium:	<i>Tomas Luis de la Victoria</i>
Lo He Comes with Clouds Descending:	<i>John Cennick, Charles Wesley/Helmsley</i>
God is with Us:	<i>John Tavener</i>
Nunc Dimittis:	<i>Herbert Howells Collegium Regale</i>
Sung Blessing:	<i>Plainsong/Praetorius</i>
O Little Town of Bethlehem:	<i>Ralph Vaughan Williams/Forest Green*</i>
Vesper Responsary:	<i>Palestrina/Rose</i>

*** Audience participation**



The WORSHIPFUL
COMPANY *of*
WOOLMEN



MUSIC FOR ADVENT

OVIS CANTORUM

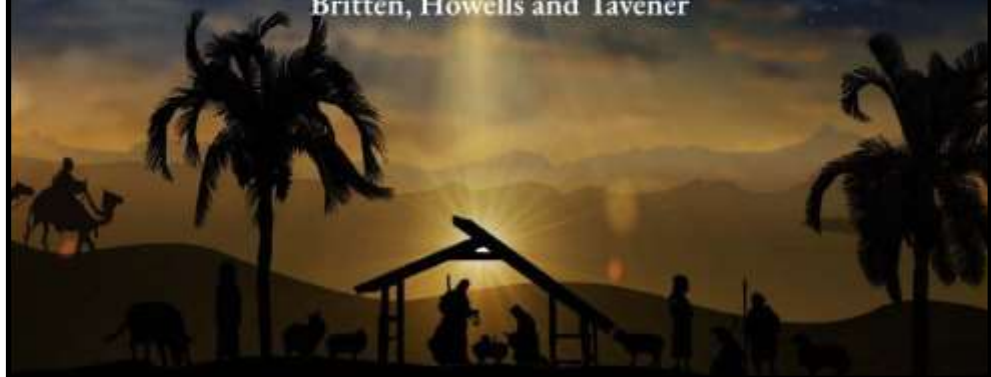
ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, THURSLEY

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER, 4.45PM

DIRECTED *by* DAVID SWINSON
ORGANIST LUKE SAINT

PROGRAMME INCLUDES:

Palestrina, Praetorius, Bach, Gibbons, Victoria,
Britten, Howells and Tavener



THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

By Pat Clarke

Our next event is the AGM at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12th November. This is not only a necessary end to the year, but always an enjoyable social occasion. There will be refreshments including wine, soft drinks, cheese and savoury snacks during the evening. We intend to have a review of the year, and to look to the year ahead by discussing the reasons for decisions made by judges at the shows. Some decisions appear mystifying, and we hope that during the evening some of the thinking behind them can be explained. Hopefully next year more people will feel confident and enthusiastic about entering.

Not everyone wants to enter Shows so we try to provide a varied and interesting programme. For example, Graham Dilmore, the Head Gardener at Hampton Court, will be giving a Talk in March entitled **'500 Years of Gardening at the Palace'**. We have

Cate from Fieldflowers in Haslemere coming in April to talk about growing flowers and her business. Mark Saunders the Head Gardener at Fittleworth House is coming in October with a talk entitled **'Super Seasonal Display Ideas'** which will include information about propagation. A visit to the Manor, a fabulous garden in Haslemere, has been arranged and we hope visit Greenhills in Tilford too. Other ideas are welcome!

Subscriptions of £7.00 per person are due and can be paid at the AGM. Membership includes discounts at Avalon Nursery, Haslemere Garden Centre, the Millais Nursery, Lindsay Clark Brothers in Churt and Squires in Milford. If you are new to the Village and would like to join, please contact the following email for details. All are welcome at the AGM.

thursleyhortsoc@hotmail.co.uk

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HORTS SOCIETY AGM
THURSLEY VILLAGE HALL
Wednesday 12th November at 7.30pm
Refreshments available



LADIES OF THURSLEY
Christmas Supper

17 | Dec | 7:30pm

Join us for an evening of good food, good neighbours & some festive cheer, catered by The Three Horseshoes.

Venue - Thursley Village Hall

Tickets - £38 per person

Includes - welcome drink, canapés,
2-course meal & wine (1/2 btl)

RSVP - thursleyevents@gmail.com

WHAT IS HAPPENING ON THE FARM THIS MONTH?

By Jo Ranson



The weather has been quite good with warm sunny days (occasionally too warm) and cooler nights, just could do with some rain again. We could also do with some frosts to get rid of the flies; they are on the dopey biting side of the season and the cows in the parlour hate them and so do Matthew and Beth. The cows fidget more so clusters come off and they have to keep going up and down the parlour putting them back on. We put the water misters on and sometimes have the lights off to discourage the flies in the parlour, but it usually needs a frost to finish them off properly.

The brassicas and grass drilling are all in and with the warmth and the odd splash of rain they have come up brilliantly - with a bit more rain we will be well away. Because we got the brassica mix in earlier than last year, we should hopefully have a bit more for the beef cattle and heifers to graze over the winter this year. The grass drilling will also grow nicely over the winter ready for the cows to go out on in February (hopefully). We have put in a mixture of grasses; a total of five cow paddocks have been done. Some have grass mixed with clover and some have herbal leys. The idea of doing the mix allows different amounts of grazing available to the

cows at different times of the year, so the grass/clover mix will be ready to graze early and late in the season, but if we have little or no rain it won't grow so well. This is where the herbal leys work well because they are late to come to the grazing season but being deeper rooting they are available when it gets too hot and dries out. The herbal leys will require no fertiliser and the grass/clover one will require less, as like herbs, clover produces its own nitrogen. Always love to put a little less bought-in fertiliser, good for the sustainability side of things and good for the pocket too. We got another lot of silage bales done and all bales are now safely stacked up at home - not a huge yield but hopefully plenty to see us through the winter.

We are still plodding our way through the calvings. But we have had some sad cases this month, one calf born very early who was doing well but then went down downhill and although we tried our best to keep him going, he didn't make it. A cow that became ill before she calved; we nursed her through to calving and it looked like she was getting better. We had to lift her every day, twice a day, then she found it all too stressful and gave up so we had to have her put down. Another prolapsed and at 5am on a Sunday morning (it's always on a weekend) we had to have the vet out to put it all back in (she is all good now and in the milking herd). Another cow that went very sick and took a bit of lifting for a day or two has recovered, although she won't be milked again - we think she had acorn poisoning. There is an abundance of acorns this year and she obviously had pigged out on them, so we put her in an acorn-free paddock on silage, and she has made a full recovery. All those

animals take up so much time and it is very demoralising when it isn't successful, however it is also very rewarding when you save them - the joys of having livestock.

This week we finally got round to freeze-branding the year-old heifers. We have been cutting it fine. After actually doing the freeze branding it takes a few weeks for the numbers to show up (and being that in about three weeks' time they will be coming into their winter accommodation and next month we will start serving), we need the numbers to start showing. It's much easier to pick a cow by her freeze brand than look at her ear tag which is usually hiding in a hairy ear. Toby, Beth and I were on this job, and all was going well; we thought we might even finish in record time. However, the last 15 somehow (and we really don't know how) got the chained and bolted gate open and mixed themselves in with the ones already done. So we had to run them all through the crush again, stopping the ones we hadn't done, and creating another hour of work on top of what it should have been - so frustrating. These heifers are very much in their teenage years and behave like ones too. When they have been in their fields they have started pushing the boundaries and escaping - it's never far or with too much damage but just enough to test your patience and always at a time when you are busy. I am hoping they will grow out of this quite quickly.

Serving time is approaching fast, so I have been busy getting the cows' Cow Manager tags all up to date; these are the tags which indicate whether they have been in season or not. If they haven't before we start serving, then they made need to see the vet to find out why this hasn't happened, so we need enough time to collect the data from the tags and get that sorted. We have also been choosing semen for

this serving period too. Coffee breaks and lunchtimes have seen us with the catalogues out choosing who and what we would like, with weird conversations about teat length, bottom sizes, fertility and milk yields. The decisions have been made, and we are waiting now for it to be delivered and get it tested before we use it.

We had our climate check audit this week; my day of complicated form filling in June on what animals we have, how much we fed them, how yields were, how much diesel and electricity we used; almost everything down to what I had for breakfast every morning for the past year is taken into account. It then gets audited to allocate our points for the Arla Sustainability scheme and how well we score for a carbon footprint. On somethings we gained points and in a couple of areas we lost points, but we came out with a total of 58 points and as a game show always used to say, points mean prizes and we get paid for those points. We also get to see how we score compared to other Arla farmers and we are one of the highest which shows we are being very efficient, environmentally friendly and economic farmers.

I went out of my comfort zone this month and went to London (and had to wear a skirt). As part of my volunteering for the Farming Community Network a few of us were invited to the Farmers Club in Whitehall to meet the CEO to discuss the pros and cons of being a volunteer for them. Had a great time and an amazing lunch but it is nice to get back to cows and wellies.

We have just about caught up with all the important jobs, but it won't be long before we will be housing cow and heifer-wise full time and serving will start, so we need to get the cows settled and in tip top condition before we start.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING 2025

By Jackie Rickenberg

Doesn't a year fly by? It was time again for myself and Maggie to organise this year's Macmillan coffee morning – carrying on a village tradition originated by Caroline Mendelssohn and friends fourteen years ago.

Donations from thousands of Coffee Mornings, big and small, help raise vital funds to support the almost 3.5 million people in the UK living with cancer, from the moment they are diagnosed, throughout treatment and beyond. We are proud to do our bit in Thursley to support this.

Over the years an incredible total of £46,000 had been raised, as seen in the graphic below. Could we dare to hope to get it to over the £50,000 milestone? The coffee morning fundraiser normally takes place on the last Friday in September, but this year we decided to do it differently. By holding it on the Saturday morning instead and relocating to the village hall, it allowed more of the working village to attend and enabled easier access for everyone.

So, on the 27th September, the village hall was decorated with banners, posters, balloons and bunting in the familiar Macmillan colours and we opened to all. Tables and chairs were set out. There was the traditional produce stall, filled with cakes, chutneys, honey etc., all foraged and picked from gardens around the village - ok, Tesco MAY have helped! THANK YOU to every single person that made the time to fill our tables to heaving point with delicious goodies, and

to Camilla who so efficiently managed to sell the lot. There was the usual raffle with some fab prizes, of which I managed to win not a jot, run with enthusiasm and vigour by Debbie and Tricia (absolutely nobody got past them). A special THANK YOU to everyone who donated, with a special shout out to Zara, hairdresser to the barnets of the village, for her generous voucher, which was so fairly and impartially won by Tamsin, up to her elbows in cafetières in the kitchen, making every cup of coffee that was drunk. She was joined by Phoebe on milk frothing duties and Jackie M on the tea stand. Being Thursley, we had a fine offer of herbal and decaff options and the obligatory five different milk selection. And the final and arguably most important member of the kitchen team, Mike R on washing up.

The children's table, bucket shaking and general loveliness was brought by Isla, Frankie, Molly, Charlotte and Eve. And finally, the door dream team of Claire D and Jane, the public facing and fleecing duo, who took care of the serious business of taking the money and filling out the boring paperwork. Last but not least Lizzie, my wingman and general all-rounder who made everything go so much more smoothly just by her indomitable presence and David for being official photographer. A magnificent effort, thank you team Macmillan. A penultimate THANK YOU to our sponsors; Marks & Spencer for providing all the milk and Waitrose for tea and coffee, we really couldn't have raised as much as we



did without their generous donations. And finally THANK YOU to everyone that came, donated and spent.

And after keeping you hanging on – our total raised. Becky, the Macmillan fundraising manager that joined us on the day, was hopeful that we could achieve the £4,000 needed to reach the total of



£50,000. But it's a lot of money from a small village. In fact, Maggie and I are delighted to announce the actual total raised was £4,037.72 making a grand total over the last fourteen years of £50,915.71.

THANK YOU THURSLEY, SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!!!





Please join us on
Saturday, 29th November
At 6.30pm for
CHRISTMAS TREE SWITCH ON
Mulled Wine & Sausage Rolls



Parishes of Elstead, Thursley, Shackleford & Peper Harow
Church in the community, community in the church

NOVEMBER 9TH 2025

***REMEMBRANCE
SUNDAY***

10:45am at St Michael & All Angels
Church, Thursley





THURSLEY HARVEST SUPPER



HARVEST SUPPER 2025

By Lizzie Young

Saturday 4th October was the second revival Harvest Supper. Lit by the harvest moon, villagers converged in the hall for an evening of comfort food, convivial company, and a light entertainment on the eve of Harvest Festival at St Michael and All Angels.

Seating is deliberately mixed to give us all the chance to meet new friends. It gave us a deep sense of joy to look around the room at 10pm, to see every seat still filled, and to hear the delightful hum of good conversation.

James Maclean, Jackie Malton, Peter Hunter, James Mendelssohn, Tricia Horwood, Tom Taylor-Matthews, Valerie Ferris, Jane Howard, David Beechey and Hannah Moore were our brave readers, and their poems, letters and lists gave us all a chuckle, a moment of gratitude and a pause for thought. Thank you to each of them for their willingness to take to the mike.

So many thanks are due. It's a wonderful thing that when a call for assistance goes out, it is answered warmly by so many. The committee – Susanne Hunter, Sally

Scheffers, Tamsin Taylor-Matthews, Claire Dailly and Lizzie Young – are more than grateful to the many cooks who delivered their delicious cottage pies, cheese straws and apple crumbles to the hall, to the willing and hardworking crew of young women washing up behind the scenes, to the unsung heroes who arrived to help with tables and chairs, and with flowers. As ever, the phenomenal group effort to take down at the end of the evening makes light work of a mammoth task, and gets the committee into their beds before midnight.

The evening is not a fund raiser, as such, but thanks in no small part to the generosity of our home cooks, we made some money to add to the collection taken the following morning. All profits go to Step by Step, our Parish's chosen charity. Step by Step works with young people across Surrey, Berkshire, Dorset, Wiltshire and Hampshire, meeting their needs in accommodation, advice, and well-being, and aiming to help those who are lost back onto paths that will lead to happier, safer lives.

We hope to see you all again next time.



GIVE IT A GROW

By Debbie Spencer



Remember, remember, the garden in November!

Even though our days are shorter and the weather is colder and wetter, there's still the opportunity to bring colour and light into the garden by brightening up pots and cleaning up in preparation for winter.

Add a bit of sparkle

Time to plant tulips (photo below is a variety called Firework) and also plant any other leftover spring bulbs.

Lift and store dahlias, cannas & begonias once frosted: dry, label, and keep frost-free.

Cut back blackened perennials but leave seedheads (e.g., echinacea, sedum) for winter interest & birds.

Mulch beds with compost/leafmould to protect soil and worms.

Refresh winter pots with violas, pansies, cyclamen, heathers, small evergreens; add a layer of bulbs underneath ("lasagne" planting).

Light up the sky

Plant bare-root roses, hedges, fruit trees and ornamental trees while soil is still workable.

Prune apples & pears (not stone fruit); remove crossing/congested branches.

Shorten rose stems by a third to stop wind rock leave the proper pruning late winter.



Check stakes, ties & tree guards-
replace or loosen before winter winds.

The plot

Sow overwintering broad beans
(‘Aquadulce Claudia’) and peas in
sheltered spots.

Plant garlic and autumn onion sets
and rhubarb crowns can go in now.

Clear spent crops and mulch or cover
beds and sow/hoe off winter weeds.

Sow green manures (field beans/rye) if
beds will be empty till spring.

Prepare the earth

Keep raking leaves off grass and paths
- make leaf mould in a bin, porous
bags or bin liner with holes.

Edge and aerate worn lawn patches-
brush in sharp sand/top-dressing if
the ground is not frozen/waterlogged.

Stand well back

Clean the greenhouse inside and out
and add bubble-wrap insulation if
necessary.

Check heaters/thermostats if
greenhouse is heated.

Wash and oil tools, disinfect pots, and
service the mower before storage.

Make a plan for next year, thinking
about crop rotation and order seeds.

Look after the good Guy

Build a leaf pile for hedgehogs;
always check bonfires before lighting.

Top up bird feeders & water; clean
feeders to prevent disease.

Net ponds for leaves; thin any excess
growth from marginal areas.

Damp Squib

Pressure-wash or brush algae from
paths and steps.

Empty water butts and check gutters,
insulate outdoor taps.

Remember, remember the 5th of
November, the Gunpowder treason
and plot

I know of no reason why the
Gunpowder treason (or your
garden!) should ever be forgot!



THURSLEY WEDDINGS & ANNIVERSARIES

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

This month we are featuring an amazing achievement. By way of explanation. The Thursley History Society website - truly a work of dedication and love from David Young - has a wonderful section on Thursley weddings. It features an amazing level of detail on a lot of the marriages that have taken place in the village since 1613!

The wedding archive originally prompted an exhibition called **"Wedding Belles"** put on by The History Society in the village hall in 2007. Since then, most of the original archives have been digitised and added to, resulting in this comprehensive and fascinating record now on the website www.thursleyhistorysociety.org. For example, this is the entry for this century's weddings:

**[www.thursleyhistorysociety.org/
post/thursley-marriages-1613-2007-
part-5-2000-2007](http://www.thursleyhistorysociety.org/post/thursley-marriages-1613-2007-part-5-2000-2007)**

It now has every wedding, including the three August weddings this year.

However, David is a man on a mission. His stepping back from an illustrious publishing career now means he has even more time to spend on his favourite pastime, Thursley history (deep sigh from Lizzie). Focusing on weddings currently, he has issued a plea. Please take a moment to search "Thursley marriages" on the website and if you're not on there, and you got married in St Michael and All Angels, please do get in touch with David on davidjohnyoung51@hotmail.com with any photographs and a brief description. Don't forget any other family members weddings too.

As I mentioned at the beginning, there is a strange coincidence which spurred me on to cover this subject this month. Back in 1950, Richard (Dick) and Peggy Partington were married in Thursley



church. An incredible, mind boggling seventy-five years later – to the day - they revisited the church and have been able to fill us in with a little bit about themselves.

Peggy met Dick when they were both living in Thursley, he in Horn Cottage on Dyehouse Rd (down in the bend) as his father was the gardener at Dye House, and she at Kettlebury, Thursley Rd, Pitch Place. They moved to Heath View (now called Acorns), just on the corner on the way down to the old Red Lion pub, and stayed for five years. They had two children, both christened in Thursley church and were happy to reminisce about that time in their lives. Peggy remembers going to dances and whist drives in the old Village Hall (next to the pub) and chatted about the support Thursley received and gave to other villages close by. Elstead and Churt residents regularly came to Thursley events and vice versa. I suppose the villages populations were smaller back then.

Sixth September, 2025 - 75 years to the day later - Richard and Peggy returned to St Michael & All Angels. They are photographed with their daughter (next to Richard), daughter-in-law Sheila (next to Peggy) and friends Paul and Sandra Cheeseman from Elstead.

Meanwhile another delve into the archives provided me with just enough information about a particular match, to want to research further.

Another Thursley marriage piqued my interest as the surname of the bride was vaguely familiar. Here's a little bit about the father of the bride, who would appear to have been absent from the proceedings.

Major-General Sir Adrian Paul Ghislain Carton de Wiart VC, KBE, CB, CMG, DSO (5 May 1880 - 5 June 1963) was a British Army officer of Belgian and Irish descent. He was awarded the Victoria Cross, the highest military decoration awarded for valour "in the face of the enemy" in various Commonwealth countries. He served in the Boer War,



First World War and Second World War. He was shot in the face, head, stomach, groin, ankle, leg, hip and ear. He was also blinded in his left eye, survived two plane crashes, tunneled out of a prisoner-of-war camp, and tore off his own severely injured fingers when a doctor declined to amputate them. After returning home from service in the Second World War, he was sent to China as Winston Churchill's personal representative. He has been described as thus: "With his black eyepatch and empty sleeve, Carton de Wiart looked like an elegant pirate, and became a figure of legend". In male company he was "a delightful character and must hold the world record for bad language".

In 1908, he married Countess Friederike Maria Karoline Henriette Rosa Sabina Franziska Fugger von Babenhausen of Austria (known as Ricky!) They had two daughters and the eldest, Anita (born 1909), married Hugh Thompson of Thursley, and went on to become the maternal grandmother of the war correspondent Anthony Loyd (born 1966).

At the time of his daughter's marriage in Thursley, Carton de Wiart was living the life of a Polish gentleman. During his time in Poland during the war, he had become friends with Prince Karol Mikolaj Radziwill (distant relative of Lee Radziwill, sister of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis), who inherited a large 500,000-acre estate in Eastern Poland. Carton de Wiart was given the use of a large estate called Prostyn, a wetland area larger than Ireland and surrounded by water and forests. In this location he



spent the rest of the interwar years. In his memoirs he said "*In my fifteen years in the marshes, I did not waste one day without hunting*".

His first wife, Ricky, died in 1949. In 1951, at the age of 71, he married Ruth Myrtle Muriel Joan McKechnie, a divorcee known as Joan Sutherland, 23 years his junior (born 1903, she died 13 January 2006 at the age of 102). They settled at Aghinagh House, Killinardish, County Cork, Ireland.

Carton de Wiart died at the age of 83 in June 1963. He left no papers. He and his wife Joan are buried in Caum Churchyard just off the main Macroom road. Carton de Wiart's will was valued at probate in Ireland at £4,158 and England at £3,496.

So many questions! An intriguing back story to just one of Thursley's many weddings.

Editor's Note: If you're interested in his incredible story read "Happy Odyssey" by Carton de Wiart.

SUGAR & BAKES

By Camilla Daubeney

Spiced Fig, Coffee & Nut Cake



Ingredients

6 dried figs chopped into small pieces
75ml hot strong coffee
100g chopped hazelnuts
200g slightly salted butter
225g light muscovado sugar
200g plain flour
2 tsp baking powder
2 tsp vanilla extract
2 tsp mixed spice
50g natural yogurt
4 large eggs

For the icing

250g pack slightly salted butter
2 tsp vanilla extract
400g icing sugar
250g tub full-fat cream cheese
Zest of one orange
4 figs cut into quarters

Method

1. Put the dried figs in a bowl and pour over the coffee and leave to soak for 30 mins. Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4 and grease the base and sides of a 20 x 20cm rectangular cake and line with baking parchment.
2. Mix the soaked figs and any remaining coffee and the nuts, and whizz to a paste in a food processor.
3. Add all the remaining ingredients to a bowl with a good pinch of salt, add in the fig, coffee and nut paste and mix until well combined.
4. Pour into your cake tin, level the surface and bake for 30-35 mins, or until a skewer inserted into the centre of the cake comes out clean. Cool in the tin.
5. While the cake cools, make the icing. Put the butter, vanilla and half the icing sugar in a large bowl, and blend with an electric hand whisk until smooth. Add the cream cheese and the remaining icing sugar and the orange zest, then blend again until smooth.
6. Ice the cooled cake and decorate with sprinkled nuts and quartered figs. Enjoy!

ECO-FRIENDLY LIVING - IT'S ECO-LOGICAL

By John Swift



If it's November, it's time to think about COP30! This is the annual UN conference about achieving progress on the agreed goals from COP21 at Paris 10 years ago. COP30 is to be held in Belém, Brazil from the 10th to 21st November and it comes as the world faces the increasingly harmful effects of climate change and intense geopolitical turmoil.

A key task facing governments ahead of the conference is to submit updated national climate plans. On a positive note the UN announced, as of 25 September:

"Around 100 Parties to the Paris Agreement representing two-thirds of global greenhouse gas emissions have now either submitted or unveiled new Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets - setting out their commitments

to accelerate climate action. For the first time, several major economies including China - the world's largest emitter - as well as Nigeria, announced economy-wide emissions reduction targets covering all greenhouse gases and all sectors. These NDCs will be used to produce a "stocktaking report" that will be released ahead of COP30 to determine progress towards the Paris goals and become the basis for action."

COP30 will also involve discussions about finance, climate change adaptation and the energy transition. With the US leaving the landmark Paris Agreement (for a second time), the conference will inevitably serve as moment to take stock of how global climate efforts are proceeding in a highly challenging geopolitical context. If

you're interested in further details, take a look at the paper produced by the Chatham House think tank and the UN announcement (see links below).

With the political consensus in the UK about the Climate Change Act 2008 (amended in 2019 to introduce the Net-Zero goal by 2050) breaking down, it may seem to all be a bit depressing, but occasionally you come across something that gives you reasons to be hopeful. A few months ago I found several articles by Hannah Ritchie discussing sustainability issues which were very inspiring. Hannah is an academic, Deputy Editor of "Our World in Data" and she has been writing about using data to analyse issues for many years. Take a look at her website:

www.sustainabilitybynumbers.com

and sign up for her newsletter if you are interested (see link below). In early September she published an article on the rate of building up solar and wind capacity globally, and who is leading this from different ways of looking at it. It's worth a read to get the complete picture, but one big takeaway I got from it was the progress China has been making in the past 3 years. In that period China installed 843 TWh of solar

and wind power, which bodes well for their new NDC and for achieving the Paris goals. She's also recently written an article about the new "Electrotech" era we are in (based on Ember Energy data). Also worth a read!

Finally, if you have wanted to get answers to questions about climate change and what we can do about it, I'd recommend taking a look at Hannah Ritchie's new book – "Clearing the Air". It's available from good bookstores and Amazon (and hopefully the library).

If you want more information about any of these ideas or help, please contact:

jdsswift@btinternet.com

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what-cop30-and-why-does-it-
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JOY

By Lizzie Young



A week ago, we held our Harvest Supper in the Village Hall. I went to bed that night with sore feet, a full heart, and a sense of satisfaction (with a hint of relief) at something seeming to have gone well. It goes on to the Thursley calendar, along with the hardy annuals – the Macmillan Coffee Morning, the Christmas tree lighting, Christmas Eve hijinks at the pub, the Spring and Autumn Shows, the Fellowship meals, and the specials – this year's VE Day Exhibition, celebrations of national events, coming together in different ways. Each one most likely with a committee of volunteers, and behind the scenes supporters, all taking their turn and giving something back to the community we all share. The way it has been for living memory – I met a neighbour on my way back from setting up the hall, laden with brown paper and bags of stuff, who smiled and shared that she was glad that these days she is a guest, not an organiser. But for many years, I know that she had been, a tireless one. How great is that? Today, a week on, it's just a memory, oh, and a small pile of lost tea towels yet to wend their

way back to their owners, and one solitary vegan cottage pie left in the freezer.

We are a committee of five (open to offers to become a committee of six, or seven going forward...many hands make light work). In this, our second year, I think we gel together pretty well, and have in common a 'can do' attitude and no fear of hard work, as well, I think, as a deep abiding love for Thursley. But we each have our strengths, of course, as all committees should. Susanne is the maestro of ticket sales, and keeper of the spread sheets (my self-identified role as Head Village Luddite means I really could not be trusted with this role. It would be total chaos, and I would probably accidentally end up on embezzlement charges if asked to manage the money.). She buys the wine and beer too! Sally and Claire heroically took on kitchen duties. The hedgerows were stripped of blackberries months ago, and the ice cream makers worked overtime the week before. Then the great pie juggle and pea heat up begins behind the hatch. The magnitude of this task is self-evident. I try to look busy whenever kitchen duties are mentioned. Far too much responsibility, and I haven't the patience. Tamsin is our great link to 'the young', and finds all our washer uppers, but also has the very great gift of doing anything and everything else that needs doing quietly and brilliantly, without fuss or fanfare, and in doing so with a contagious, very appealing positivity (I would have her in my lifeboat any day). I

am, by process of elimination, Front of House and Entertainment. Lucky me!! The big mouth, all about fuss. The others seem to be as wary of the mike as I am of the oven, so the announcing and marshalling falls to me. I have to wear something with a high neck as it gives me hives to do it, but I do do it.

The task of choosing the readings and approaching the readers falls to me. And that is the very best job so far as I am concerned. We tried it last year and it seemed to go down well, so we did it again. It's brave to come up and read to a hall full of people, and I think they were all total stars. It's great fun to find things to fit the brief – the aim being to pay homage to the time of year and the purpose of the gathering, then to maybe make you think, move you, make you laugh. I like to think we did all those things. As the late Jo Cox said, 'we...have far more in common than that which divides us.' I loved them all.

But it was the Donna Ashworth poem Joy Chose You that stuck with me the most. I chose it because one of our committee has a fondness for the poet, and I chose the reader because he always seems joyful to me.

*Joy does not arrive with a fanfare
On a red carpet strewn
With the flowers of a perfect life
Joy sneaks in as you pour a cup of
coffee
Watching the sunlight hit your
favourite tree, just right
And you usher joy away because you
are not ready for her
Your house is not as it should be for
such a distinguished guest
But joy cares nothing for your messy
home
Or your bank balance, or your
waistline you see
Joy is supposed to slither through
the cracks of your imperfect life
That's how joy works
You cannot truly invite her, you can
only be ready when she appears
And hug her with meaning
Because in this very moment joy
chose you*

It has repeated myself in my head a number of times this week, and I've felt joy slither through the cracks of my own imperfect life, and I've let it spark, and been more conscious of letting it. I've put it here in the hopes it might do the same for you...



GARDEN OF ART AND MUSIC SUPPORTS PHYLLIS TUCKWELL

By Jen Barnes at Phyllis Tuckwell

Over 300 people enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of art and music at the Greenhills Estate in Tilford, on Saturday 6th September, to raise money for local Hospice Care charity Phyllis Tuckwell.

Beautiful blue skies set the scene as attendees were greeted with a welcome drink and invited to explore the stunning gardens of this country estate. Owned by Lance and Alex Trevellyan, who kindly opened the grounds of their home to host the event, the estate includes CCA's The Long Gallery, which houses artwork and limited edition prints by many well-known artists, including Sir Peter Blake, Damien Hirst and Donald Hamilton Fraser, as well as lithographic editions from His Majesty, King Charles III. Also in the grounds was a double-decker Art Bus containing art by Sir Peter Blake, the godfather of British Pop Art, and photographic works by Mike McCartney, brother of Sir Paul McCartney.

Live music was provided throughout the afternoon, including from The Ukaye Ukes, vocalist Elle Branch, a Jazz Quintet arranged by trombonist Edwin Baker, and boogie-woogie pianist Ben Waters. There was a talk on weed identification from local horticultural specialist Cathie Brooks-Welch, and stalls sold plants and jewellery, while Phyllis Tuckwell's pop-up shop displayed a wonderful selection of donated art for sale. Many people brought picnics with them, to enjoy in the late summer sunshine, and were able to wander around the grounds, exploring the gardens, dancing to the music and enjoying a wonderful afternoon.

The event was held in memory of one of Phyllis Tuckwell's patients, Helen, who was a dear friend of the Trevellyans and had also been a volunteer at Phyllis Tuckwell. To date, it has raised just over £29,000, which will go directly towards helping Phyllis Tuckwell reach the final amount needed to fund the new Hospice that it is building on its existing site in Farnham. Due to open in 2026, your new Hospice will enable Phyllis Tuckwell to care for thousands more local people who need its specialist care and support, for generations to come. It will include an 18-bed In-Patient Unit; wellbeing, exercise and education suites; therapy, counselling and family rooms; a multi-faith sanctuary; a cafe; and landscaped gardens, and will be a hub for Phyllis Tuckwell's specialist staff to care for local people who are living with an advanced or terminal illness, such as cancer.

"This delightful event was a perfect way to enjoy a summer afternoon of art and music in the most stunning country estate setting,"** said Sarah Church, chief executive at Phyllis Tuckwell. **"Thank you so much to Lance and Alex Trevellyan for opening up their gardens, grounds and CCA's Long Gallery to host the event, to our wonderful volunteers who helped on the day, and to all those who played music, gave talks, and donated raffle and auction prizes. It was a fantastic afternoon in aid of the new Hospice."

To find out more about Phyllis Tuckwell's upcoming events and your new Hospice, please visit www.pth.org.uk



Elstead Foodbank

Helping villagers during times of crisis

Elstead foodbank has moved temporarily. As the building works move into St James Church the Foodbank has moved into the Youth Centre next to the Elstead Village Hall. We will be open for drop ins every Thursday morning from 10.00 am to 11.00 am.

We continue to support those in greatest need of food and household consumables on a regular basis. We are currently supporting 22 households, a mixture of families with children, single mums, couples, pensioners and singles. It is such a joy to see people who come to us in need and are gradually able to re-take control and come off our regulars list. For that we are able to draw on a small grant from the Household Support Grant managed by Surrey County Council. We are also dependent upon the generosity of our donors both in finances and the many food gifts which often come to us anonymously as they simply appear in our collection boxes in the church porch.

If you are struggling to purchase sufficient food whilst paying all your other bills, do please get in touch and we will try to help you, either with an emergency food parcel or to work with you for longer. We have contacts to be able to signpost you to Citizens Advice and other agencies that might also be able to help.

The Elstead Foodbank is open every Thursday from 10am - 11am at Elstead Youth Centre GU8 6DG. We are here to help villagers through difficult times, and to make sure that no one ever goes hungry. If you need help call Revd Delia on 0735 9098 655 or visit us on Thursday morning and we will have a food parcel ready for you.

If you cannot come to the Foodbank but are in need of food, we can arrange a home delivery, subject to volunteer availability. We are very grateful for all your donations throughout the year. All food donations can be taken to St Michael and All Angels Thursley where there is a donation box in the porch for non-perishable food and toiletries. At this time of year we particularly would like donations of:

- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned meats and fish
- Custard (packet or tinned)
- Tea bags
- Instant coffee jar or hot chocolate
- Pot noodles
- Tinned rice pudding
- Jam or Honey or Peanut butter
- Toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, shower gel



If you would like to know more about the Foodbank and how you can help, please contact Rev Delia on 0735 9098 655 or

email: minister@parishesofetsph.org

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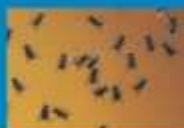
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