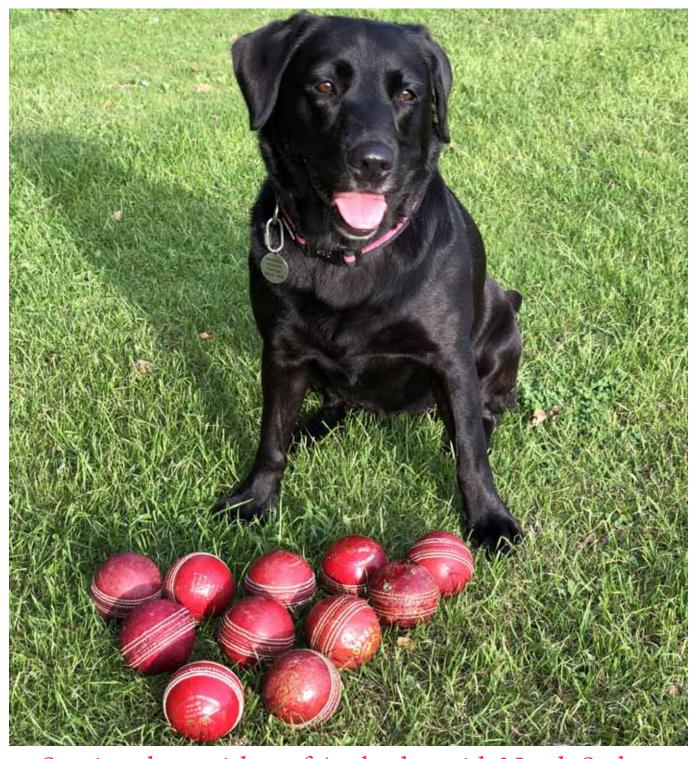
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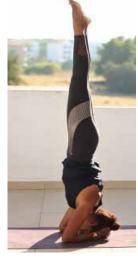
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On the mend: Amberley Repair Café up and running - p27

This month's front cover



The lost and found hound

Izzie owned by Di Hamilton and Grahame Joseph, likes nothing better than sniffing around the Recreation Ground boundary after one of Amberley Cricket Club's home games. Her total this season is thought to be 16 balls which have all now been returned to the club. Owzat!



Order! Order! The Life and Times of our local MP Andrew Griffith - p19



The New Vicarage, School Road, Amberley, BN18 9NA Tel: 01798 831 600

Respect, kindness, honesty, positivity and teamwork-shared values

I write with very mixed feelings this month, as it has been announced that I shall be retiring in January next year. The time has come to focus more on family, especially our young grandchildren, and to ease my workload and time commitment. More on that in due course, as I don't want to think too much about Goodbyes yet! For now, Steve and I will make the most of a few more months here in this our very beautiful corner of Sussex.

It's so easy to get used to the character of our tucked-away village and hamlets, scenes much painted and photographed for the quaint cottages, ancient churches and spacious views. Amberley prides itself on being not just the beautiful 'pearl of Sussex' which we value and seek to pre-

serve, but also a community which is warm and caring. Many of you will have experienced that neighbourly care and support as you have gone through times of illness or loss.

The way in which the village came together during the pandemic, supported by our village shop and friendly pub plus a host of volunteers, was quite remarkable. (Thank you for the fish and chips, Lee and Sophie!)

It's only natural that in any community, however beautiful it is on the surface, there will be times we don't see eye-to-eye. One of the saddest things I have observed is the depth of some long-held resentments within our local communities. In recent months alone there have been vigorous disagreements on topics large and small, from our approach to the environment or blessing of relationships to specific local concerns such as planning, yellow lines and the car park.

So how do we live well together as a community when we disagree? The recent and fascinating World Values Survey (a website to distract you for hours!) demonstrated that in the UK we still value good manners, tolerance and respect more highly than most other societies.



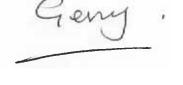
The Revd Gerry Burgess

What does that mean and how can we make it work here at the local level?

Our children at Amberley School will tell you readily of their School Values which enable all to flourish in that community: **Respect, Kindness, Honesty, Positivity, Teamwork**. There's a lesson here for us all, whatever our age.

Honesty means there are times when we should not bottle up and hide our feelings, but also means we need to beware of the hurt caused by rumour and gossip. May we look rather for ways to show Respect even as we disagree, Kindness even to those we don't readily get on with. The *Bible* says: be kind to each other, tender-hearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ has forgiven you.

That will mean exercising restraint so that we don't fuel arguments, especially in the social media forums which can generate more heat than light. Far more valuable is to speak to people over a drink, taking time to listen and understand their point of view. If we get to know them, their life and concerns, even when they're very different from our own, that will enrich us, building understanding and empathy. Then we'll be able to strengthen our community further, valuing our diversity as we work graciously together with **Positivity** and **Teamwork**. May our community continue to flourish!



The Revd Gerry Burgess Vicar













OCTOBER SERVICES & BIBLE READINGS

Services at Amberley are in contemporary language using Common Worship, while at our smaller churches they are largely traditional using the Book of Common Prayer. Everyone is welcome at our services.

Note that the 3rd Sunday at Amberley will now be Morning Praise, not a Communion service.

NB: Evening services move to 3pm winter timing from the start of October.

Midweek service: Wednesdays at 9.30am, Quiet Morning Prayer (Holy Communion on the first Wednesday of month). This is normally at Amberley but occasionally elsewhere.

SUNDAY, 1st OCTOBER HARVEST

9.15am	Holy Communion	Green Array Parham
11.00am	Holy Communion	Amberley
3.00pm	Evensong	Wiggonholt

SUNDAY, 8th OCTOBER TRINITY 18

		Green Array
9.00am	Holy Communion	Greatham
10.00am	Café Church	Amberley

SUNDAY, 15th OCTOBER TRINITY 19

9.15am	Holy Communion	Wiggonholt
11.00am	Morning Praise	Amberley
3.00pm	Evensong	Parham

SUNDAY, 22nd OCTOBER TRINITY 20

9.00am	Matins	Green Array Greatham
11.00am	Holy Communion	Amberley

SUNDAY, 29th OCTOBER BIBLE SUNDAY

Green Array

Green Array

10.00am Holy Communion Parham United Benefice service

SATURDAY, 4th NOVEMBER

4.00pm	Fauré's Requiem	Amberley
	and All Souls' reflection	า

SUNDAY, 5th NOVEMBER ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

9.15am	Holy Communion	White Array Parham
11.00am	Holy Communion	Amberley
3.00pm	Evensong	Wiggonholt

SUNDAY. 12th NOVEMBER REMEMBRANCE

0011DA1, 1201	CONDAI, IZUI NOVEINDEN NEMENDINANCE	
9.00am	Holy Communion	Red Array Greatham
10.45am	Remembrance service at the War Memorial	Amberley

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, 1st October Harvest Deuteronomy 8.7-18; Luke 12.16-30; Psalm 65

Sunday, 8th October Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

Sunday, 15th October
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14; Psalm 23

Sunday, 22nd October 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22; Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)

Sunday, 29th October Bible Sunday Colossians 3.12-17; Matthew 24.30-35

Sunday, 5th November All Saints Sunday *Revelation 7:9-17; Matthew 5:1-12; Psalm 34:1-10*

From the Parish Registers Marriage

Matthew Bannister and Kate Pluck (McGuire), at St Michael's, Amberley (9th September)



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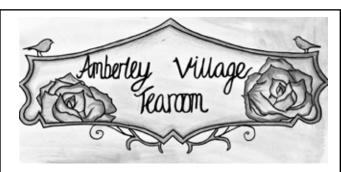
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CHURCH NEWS

Animal blessing service at Wiggonholt Church Wiggonholt Church was delighted to welcome an

Wiggonholt Church was delighted to welcome an excited congregation to its Animal Blessing service on a hot and sunny Sunday afternoon at the beginning of September.

Twenty owners of all ages came to the churchyard service to thank God for their animal friends and for the joy, love and companionship they bring. Attending "in person" were 13 dogs, two horses and one very lively tortoise. Other beloved pets were present in photographs. All were introduced by their loving owners.

There was a lot of interest from passing walkers (and their dogs), who were invited to come through the lychgate and join the congregation.

Refreshments were enjoyed by all after the service and no-one seemed to want to leave the congenial gathering in the cool shade of the trees.

Another such service is planned for next year and some of the visitors promised to return for the candlelit churchyard carol service on Christmas Eve.

Juliette Lester

On behalf of Wiggonholt Church







I'm now starting our usual harvest food bank collection for Family Support Work, the Diocesan charity that supports families in difficult circumstances across West Sussex. For more information on their excellent work go to www.familysupportwork.org. They are much more than just a food bank.

Donations can be left in my porch at Old Place, BN18 9NE – first door on the left up Hog Lane from Church Street end – or in the porch at Amberley New Vicarage, School Road, BN18 9NA.

Or, even better, bring them to our Harvest service on Sunday, October 1 at 11am at St Michael's Church.

This autumn FSW would particularly like donations of the items listed.

Thanks in advance for your support.

Melanie Edge

Churchwarden, St Michael's Amberley

Harvest Food Bank

We would welcome donations of any of the following items:

Biscuits

Canned fruit

Canned tomatoes

Canned tuna/fish

Canned vegetables

Cereal

Cleaning products

Crisps

Coffee/Tea

Frankfurters

Fruit and cereal bars

Hot chocolate

Ketchup/Mayonnaise

Jam/Marmalade

Multipack chocolate bars

Nuts & Dried fruit

Packet noodles/Rice

Pasta sauce

Peanut butter

Ready-made jelly

Rice pudding/Custard

Sandwich paste

Savoury snacks

Spaghetti hoops

Tea

Tinned macaroni

Tinned meats/Corned beef

Toiletries

Washing-up liquid





MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

FRIDAY 6th OCTOBER 2023

10.30-12.00 noon

If cancer doesn't stop, neither will we!

We look forward to seeing you

AMBERLEY MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING IN ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH HALL (Amberley this year will be a week after the National date of 29th September)

Do join us again and help support and raise funds for this most valued Cancer Support organisation. For the last two years we have managed to raise an amazing £2,000 and hopefully will be able to do the same again

Cake donations, preferably without icing, help and raffle prizes gratefully received please contact:

Sandie Conlon (01798) 839 320 sandie.conlon@btinternet.com Hazel Allinson (01798) 831 159 hazel.allinson@btinternet.com Clare Attard (07876) 083845 clare.attard@btinternet.com



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR & GAGGLE POSTINGS

Village parking – time for a little DIY?

I read with interest the correspondence about dangerous parking in the heart of the village and also listened to the exchanges at the September Amberley Parish Council meeting.

It seems to me that APC has no powers to impose parking restrictions and they could only request such from West Sussex Council, which would probably allocate it a low priority among its many other calls on resources and funds. Both councils would also be constrained by having to use 'due process'.

Might I suggest a little 'self-help' is used instead? I give below some examples of the approach used in Charlton village near Goodwood.





these appear to be 'home-made' signs, which presumably have no legally-enforceable significance but which do appear to be effective in discouraging thoughtless parking.

Malcolm Pheasev

Turnpike Road, Amberley



A trip down memory lane

I found the September edition of the *Wildbrooks Magazine* of particular interest.

I did not know of the recent book *Tales of a Family Farm* but remember well the Lerwill family when I joined Dr Richard Pepper in General Practice in Pulborough in the mid-60s.

Home visiting was a large part of our work but the initial challenge was finding Frithwood Farmhouse! Blackgate Lane seemed interminabley long, and Frithwood was nearer Wisborough Green if it was not for the River Arun.

I have nothing but happy memories of Berns, Consuelo and family but it was a hard life. I much look forward to a good read.

A few pages further in the magazine and Caroline Seaton's fascinating life story of her move to Sussex and the creation of her very successful pottery business. She also mentions some other very familiar Amberley residents .

General Practice, like everything else, has radically changed but the occasional visit down memory lane I am sure does no harm.

Mervyn Jeffery

Storrington

Letters to the Editor
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PEOPLE & EVENTS

Welcome...

To **Kim** and **Graham Smith**, who have moved into 25, Newland Gardens, one of the new houses on the Swan Meadow development. We wish them every happiness in their new home

Our congratulations..

To **John Kemp**, who celebrates his 90th birthday on October 15, and to **Gill Douglas** who last month celebrated her 70th birthday.

Hallraisers' progress report

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Church Hall refurbishment – either through making a donation or by attending a fundraising event.

I'm delighted to let you know that, as reported last month, we have solved the mystery of the blocked drains – thanks to a £1,000 grant from Amberley Parish Council – meaning that waste water from the kitchen is now flowing freely again.

We have also been successful in winning a £7,500 grant from ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England). This means we are closing in on our fundraising target that will enable us to refurbish the Church Hall toilets, including installing an accessible toilet. We are planning to do this work in November and so – advance warning – the hall will be closed for most of the month. This does mean, however, that we will have sparkling new toilets in place for the Christmas festivities.

Please help us with the final fundraising push by supporting our next fundraising events – the Roving Supper on October 21, when we hope the whole of Amberley will turn out to connect with neighbours, old and new, and the sophisticated Scent Soirée at Amberley Castle on November 23.

Thanks to our wonderful sponsors for these events – David and Lillis Lyon, Nyetimber and Amberley Castle. Their generous support means that every penny you donate will go towards the Church Hall refurbishment.

Mel Edge and the Hallraisers

• See pages 24-25 for a full explanation about the Roving Supper and a booking form; and page 16 for details about the Scent Soirée at Amberley Castle.

Price of stamps going up - again The cost of a First class stamp is rising from £1.10p to

The cost of a First class stamp is rising from £1.10p to £1.25p on October 2, an increase of 14 per cent. Second class stamps remain unchanged at 75p. Unfortunately, it means the cost of posting the *Wildbrooks Magazine* soars from £1.85p to to £2.40p.

MP to attend Village Breakfast

The first Village Breakfast since before the pandemic is being held in the Limeburners Café at Amberley Museum on Saturday, October 14. Arundel and South Downs MP Andrew Griffith will be among those attending.

The event, which is open to all residents, is a valuable forum where local issues can be discussed. There will be updates on a wide range of village activities and projects from representatives of various bodies.

It starts promptly at 8.30am and is scheduled to finish at 9.45am, prior to the museum opening to the public. Free parking is available in the museum car park. The museum is extending an invitation to those who attend the breakfast to stay on to explore the 36-acre site and its many exhibits.

The cost of breakfast is £12.50, payable in advance to lan and Valerie Galbraith at Simon's Lee, Rackham Road (01798 839006) or e-mail ian@ecomis.com

Music at the Vicarage

Two short piano recitals by Libby Burgess, daughter of the Revd Gerry and Steve Burgess, are being given in the Vicarage on Thursday, October 12. The programme includes works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Johannes Brahms, Clara Schumann, Amy Beach and John Ireland.

There is a performance at 11am, preceded by coffee from 10.30am, and another at 2.30pm, followed by a cup of tea.

Admission is free but donations are invited, to be divided between the Libya Flood Appeal and St Michael's Church. As seating is limited, advance booking is essential: call (01798) 831600 or e-mail stevegerryburgess@gmail.com

Libby's current season includes a Radio 3 broadcast recital with Ailish Tynan from Oxford Lieder, a return to the Wigmore Hall with Alessandro Fisher, and to Aldeburgh with Ben Hulett, and broadcasts with the BBC Singers. Her nationwide Bach marathon, 'Project 48', has now raised over £29,000 for Help Musicians, Live Music Now, Future Talent and Youth Music.

Sportsman future in doubt

After five-and-a-half years, Lee and Sophie Forbes are giving up their tenancy of The Sportsman. The fate of the pub is unknown at the time of going to press.

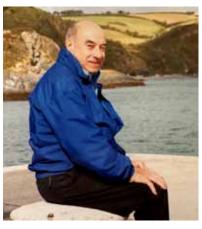
The couple did much to keep the village and surrounding hamlets fed and watered during the pandemic lockdown by delivering, with the help of volunteers, more than 3,400 meals to almost 160 households, including 1,750 portions of their excellent fish and chips. They will be sorely missed.



Ian Horsell, 1933-2023Ian Horsell, who has died aged 90, had lived in Amberley

since 2010.

Born in Streatham, south London, he did his National Service with the Royal Engineers and then worked for his father's engineering company in Nightingale Lane, Balham, where he modified motorcycles. He went scrambling most weekends, having represented Great Britain for the army and was still competing until the mid-1960s.



He met Cilla, his future wife, while scrambling - she was there with her father. Recalled Ian: One gets to remember the faces of spectators and that's how we met. What first attracted me were her lovely eyes and the fact she was always smiling."

They were married in

1963 having two years earlier discovered a plot of land in Banstead on which they built a family home. Their first son, Giles, was born in 1967, and Simon followed three years later.

Both boys, like their father, became keen scramblers, their parents taking them up and down the country to compete.

Their encouragement and enthusiasm paid off as the two boys became champion riders.

lan left the engineering business in 1972 to set up his own mobile servicing operation, which he continued until retirement in 2003. He never needed to advertise as his business was all by word-of-mouth, repeats and referrals. For relaxation, he enjoyed golf and spent a week every year playing in Scotland.

He was very much a family man and devoted to Cilla, who sadly died last year. The couple spent many holidays on the Continent and in 1995 they bought a camper van and travelled across Europe following the Motocross Grand Prix circuit, doing lap scoring, marshalling and acting as a chequered flag official.

The funeral is at noon on October 2 in the Kingswood Chapel at Worthing Crematorium, followed by a wake at The Sportsman.



A time to Remember

Calling all singers! On Saturday, November 4, at 4pm at St Michael's Church there's A time to Remember, which will include a performance of Fauré's Requiem.

If you know this beautiful piece (or are a quick learner), the church choir would be very glad if you could come and sing. Rehearsals are on Friday mornings at 10.30am in St Michael's Church. Bring a copy of the score if you have one.

If you're interested please ring Shirley Linford, our choir director, on (01903) 783692, speak to choir members including Ros and Tim Simpson, Mary Leonard or Cyndy Kennett, or simply come along. **Gerry Burgess**









Glorious Gateaux and Chapeaux

On a gloriously sunny September afternoon, there was an excellent turn-out and array of hats for Action Medical Research's Gateaux and Chapeaux tea party!

Tea and prosecco flowed from start to finish and the cakes – all made by the excellent bakers in the village – were in constant demand with many party-goers returning for more.

It was a relaxed afternoon among friends and neighbours, all in the77 beautiful surroundings of the Oak Tree House garden, with generous contributions from all three generations of the Lyon family who hosted the event.

The Action Medical Research committee would like to thank all those who volunteered to help out on the day, and an equally big thank you to all who contributed cakes, plants and produce, all of which helped raise the magnificent sum of £1,100. We could not have done it without you.

 Next year's biennial Amberley Gardens Open, which is organised by the local AMG committee, will be on Sunday June 9.

















Open Door Advent Calendar

Where has the year gone? Already we in the middle of September and I am composing my reminder about the Advent Calendar for the October issue of the *Wildbrooks Parish Magazine*.

It is a custom well known to many in the village but for newcomers here is what it is about.

Each day in December some of us open our front doors in turn and invite villagers to social activities: parties, poetry or story-telling evenings, coffee mornings or crafting



sessions, or whatever you choose, to raise funds for charity and to get to know one another better and meet new arrivals in the village. In the past we have had cookery demonstrations, origami lessons, learned how to make re-usable Christmas crackers, Christmas wreaths, enjoyed a fish smokery demonstration, drinks parties and carol singing. New ideas last year included a photography competition and an exhibition by very talented local artists. Rumour has is that this year my husband-Malcolm will open his model railway in the loft to anyone agile enough to climb the ladder. The possibilities are as wide as your imagination.

If you would like to open your door that would be wonderful. Alternatively, if you would rather visit, then look out for details of the calendar which will be in the *Wildbrooks Parish Magazine*, distributed by Gagglemail and displayed on village noticeboards. I will be coordinating the events to ensure no clashes – just contact me on suepheasey6@gmail.com or call (01798) 839046.

I am delighted that this year I have already been approached by people who want to open their doors for the first time, some who were first timers last year are looking forward to doing this again and, of course, there are the 'standards' – carol singing, Cava and Canapés, and hopefully finishing with the Journey to the Crib on Christmas Eve.

Last year as well as supporting the original charity, Freedom from Torture, people held events for their own charity of choice and as a result nearly £3,000 was raised for a variety of causes. We also learned not to plan events for a Saturday evening if an important football match is being played!

Please contact me with ideas for your open door and, ideally, with up to a possible three dates so that the best combination of activities can be arranged. If this is the first time you are opening your door here are few tips on planning: state if you need a contribution towards materials eg for crafting; if you need to limit numbers due space restrictions, and/or if you are planning to offer food and drink do ask people to let you know they are coming to make catering easier.

Last year we had 19 events and this year I am very much hoping that this can be matched.

I look forward to hearing from you. **Downsland, Turnpike Road**

Sue Pheasey



Friends celebrate centenary with a guided tour of Amberley

Part of the centenary celebrations this year for the Friends of the South Downs was a guided tour of Amberley during a sunny September afternoon.

Conducted by Grahame Joseph, chair of the Amberley Society, it covered everything from the earliest occupation of the village to a close look at some of the unique buildings.

There were snippets of information and anecdotes that brought the cultural history to life. For example, the origins of Smock Alley not only involved laundresses, but also alludes to an historic 'red light' area of the village. And the bricked-up windows of another home drew the visitors' attention to William III's Window Tax — probably the origins of the term "daylight robbery".

An interesting and enjoyable afternoon concluded with a delicious tea in St Michael's Church Hall.

Friends' chairman, David Sawyer, thanked Grahame Joseph for his entertaining stroll around the village, highlighting what continues to make it so special for those that live here and for visitors alike.



AMBERLEY PARISH COUNCIL

What your councillors discussed



Highlights of the meeting held on September 14, 2023 in St Michael's Church Hall

Present: Jason Charman (chairman), Leigh Cresswell, Tim Simpson, Laura Rawnsley, Elisabeth Tooms, Paul Mustow, Ian Corcoran and Hazel Allinson. Also in attendance: Len Ellis-Goodman (Horsham District councillor), Vicky Spiers (parish clerk) and 16 members of the public.

Inconsiderate and often illegal parking, the prospect of a 20mph speed limit through the village, an extension of the 40mph speed limit on the main road to beyond the football field and the cost of measures to protect the damaged lights in the car park were among the topics raised at the meeting.

A discussion about the ongoing problem of inconsiderate on-street parking, particularly at the junctions at either end

of Hog Lane, included a suggestion by a resident for the installation of double yellow lines and a recommendation that residents affected by badly parked car to report the vehicles to Operation Crackdown. Councillors agreed that further investigation into the parking issue was required.

In response to a question how the council was encouraging the use of the new car park, the meeting was told that it was well used, confirmed by the CCTV which had been installed. NHIS EET

Inconsiderate and often illegal parking has become a serious issue, especially on the corner of Hog Lane and the High Street

Tim Simpson, who leads the Neighbourhood Plan delivery team, reported that due to six of the 12 lights in the car park having been damaged, a longer-term solution was required to protect them. Knee-high fencing around the planted areas where the lights are located had been approved by both the South Downs National Park and HDC, and would be installed during October at a cost of £6,409.

The possibility of installing hedgehog warning signs on the main road was being considered by the parish council following concerns raised by another resident at the number of hedgehogs being run-over near the entrance to the football field.

Vicky Spiers, the parish clerk, reported that an application

for a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) for a reduction in the speed limit through Amberley village had completed the initial stage and was now with a West Sussex County Council traffic engineer to fully review the request. And that the support of Paul Marshall, WSCC councillor and leader, had been obtained for the TRO application for a reduction in the speed limit to 40mph on the B2139 alongside the football field. This support was needed to enable the application to progress and it would shortly be submitted.

Laura Rawnsley reported that some inconsistencies had been picked up in the feasibility report on the Joint Community Highways Scheme with Houghton to provide safe pedestrian access between Amberley station and Houghton. These would be addressed by WSCC's Highways department and its consultants. The local working group would then be in a position to circulate the revised document with parishioners and seek a vote on the acceptance of any recommendations. Houghton Parish Meeting was expected to adopt a similar approach. The location of a speed indicator device (SID), which is part of the scheme, is still under consideration.

A trustee of the Amberley Millennium Green reported that

legal negotiations with Antler Homes regarding maintenance costs for the newly installed bridge from the Swan Meadows development to the Millennium Green had already cost the trust £2,000. Councillors agreed to discuss a request for a further donation to help with the legal costs (to be returned in the event of a successful outcome) at the next meeting of the Finance Committee meeting, and then present their decision to the full council in November.

The parish council was also asked if it would continue to provide its annual donation to

asked if it would continue to provide its annual donation to cover insurance costs for the Millennium Green, and this, too, would be discussed at the Finance meeting in October.

Two potential compliance issues on the Swan Meadows development are being referred to the SDNPA. One related to the removal of conifer trees to the north of the site and the other concerned the installation of a drainage pipe not in accordance with the approved plans.

Jason Charman announced that a large pothole in School Road had been reported and that Nyetimber had cut back the hedge along the south side of the footpath on New Barn Road. Weather permitting, ditch clearance work would start the following week.

continued overleaf



continued from previous page

Paul Mustow advised that following the annual playground inspections some remedial work was required and the clerk was arranging for this to be carried out. The council approved a quote of £1,620 for the clearance of the overgrown vegetation along the west side of the football field and at the entrance. It was noted there had been some incidents of petty vandalism including the litter bin from the football field being left on the B2139, one of the new benches being moved and some signs being tampered with. The clerk had referred the matter to local PCSO. A further discussion outside of the meeting was required about unauthorised dog walking on the football field.

Following a complaint by a resident about the disruption caused by HGVs reversing when they were unable to get under the railway bridge at Houghton Bridge, it was agreed a further discussion was required with WSCC's Paul Marshall and the Highways Department in an effort to resolve the issue. Additional signage, warning drivers of the low bridge, had already been installed at Whiteways roundabout after lobbying by the parish council.

Elisabeth Tooms advised that a Village Bus survey was currently underway to determine user preferences and that an additional volunteer driver was being sought.

Prior to the meeting Fraser Wheeler, who is heading the council's Climate Action and Nature Recovery Working Group, had forwarded a proposal for the planting of a hedge along the northern boundary of the cricket field. After a discussion the plan was agreed in principle with the caveat that the hedge would be beyond the safe distance area required around the play equipment. It was also noted that volunteers would be planting and maintaining the hedge.

Len Ellis-Brown, recently elected Horsham District councillor, reported that work continues to finalise the HDC Local Plan, the completion of which would help prevent speculative planning applications. He also said there was a current consultation on parking fees in rural areas.

Ben Applin (rural engagement officer for West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service), provided details of 'A Safe and Well Visit' scheme, a free service for elderly residents or those with a physical, mental or sensory disability. It involves a preranged home visit to offer advice on how to make it safer and, where appropriate, fit smoke alarms or other specialist fire detection equipment, free of charge.

Among the committee membership changes confirmed at the meeting, Leigh Cresswell will now chair Planning; Fraser Wheeler and Ian Corcoran both join Finance & HR; with the latter also becoming a member of Assets & Amenities.

Date of the next meeting: Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 7.30pm in St Michael's Church (note change of venue as the church hall will be closed for refurbishment).

An invitation to a Scent Soirée

I would like to invite you on an olfactory adventure! Fragrance has been a passion for most of my life and I have been fortunate enough to spend much of my career doing exactly what I love most. Working with the world's finest perfumers for over 25 years, formerly as the director of public relations for many luxury fragrance brands, and latterly as proprietor of a London perfumery and creative director of my own fragrance collection, which debuted at Selfridges.



The Amberley Scent Soirée

Amberley Castle

November 23rd, 2023 7pm - 8.30pm I am privileged to be considered an expert in the field; the editor of *The Sunday Times* wrote, rather saucily, that she would like to live in my 'sillage'...this is not to be confused with 'silage'!

I thought that it might be fun to spend an evening together and let me lead you (quite literally!) by the nose across the centuries, experiencing historic scents and some utterly unforgettable, contemporary fragrances for both men and women, as well as learning how and where to wear perfume - some areas of the body hold scent better than others and to find out just where they are located you will need to join me!

Fragrance was first worn by the priests of Ancient

Egypt – and we shall also include some historic fragrances created for gentlemen, including the very first *Eau de Cologne*, made in Cologne, Germany, in 1709, and still made there to the same formula. There will be hirsute scents from a castle in the Scottish Highlands and we shall experience those favoured by Napoleon Bonaparte, Count D'Orsay and... George Clooney (as a matter of fact he has excellent taste!).

Everyone loves a great smell, and everyone should always smell their best because, as scent is tied to memory (they are stored in the same area in the brain); people will remember your fragrance long after they have forgotten what you were wearing.

Tickets are £20 per guest, or £35 for two, and include canapés and a glass of fizz. Please e-mail me (michael_c_donovan@ btinternet.com) and I will send payment options.

All funds are in aid of the Hallraisers' Refurbishment Project at St Michael's Church Hall.



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The Life and Times of... Andrew Griffith, MP for Arundel and South Downs

I think that Parliament should have a rich tapestry of life experience. We need to get good people from all walks of life into the parliamentary system, to work together to make the tough decisions we face as a society.

The experience I bring is from the world of business and my entry into politics relatively recently, in 2019, had a lot of serendipity about it. I'd had an interest since my university days in Nottingham where I was chair of the university Conservatives, but after graduating, I became an accountant and went on to work in business for over 30 years.

I had just finished a 20-year career at Sky — emp where I worked as Chief Financial Officer and latterly as COO — and I had been living in the South Downs with my family for 17 years when my predecessor, Nick Herbert, retired. I believe it's important that people put themselves forward for public service if they can — and the time seemed right for me to step forward again.

I was born in Bexleyheath, in south east London. My family were originally dockers who came over to the UK from Ireland and my grandfather worked in the Woolwich docks. I went to my local comprehensive school and was the first in my family to go to university, where I studied law. My first job while a student was making doughnuts in the local Tesco's bakery. It's a pretty ordinary upbringing and I hope this, with my experience in business, means that my constituents find me approachable and understanding of the issues they face.

I love driving change and innovation, particularly where technology provides the platform for change. Sky was a pioneering business that went from the world of analogue to digital to streaming and then into broadband. The last thing I did before entering politics was to chair the Board of Just Eat, where the work again was about disruptive change – developing a new takeaway delivery model, enabled by technology.

It's much harder to achieve disruptive change in politics and government. The processes are more rigid, the stakeholders are more complex than in business and you're dealing with many layers of government, both in Westminster and also locally. In essence, though, the approach is the same – it's about building coalitions of people and then through those coalitions, achieving the outcomes you are seeking.

A good example of this is the cross-parliamentary group on dark skies that ${\sf I}$



Andrew Griffith, a South Downs resident for 17 years: "My ultimate employers are my constituents – and I have 88,000 of those!"

was able to set up with Professor Lord Martin Rees, the Astronomer Royal. Here, parliamentarians of all parties - from both the House of Commons and House of Lords - work together to preserve the night sky from light pollution and promote the adoption of dark sky friendly lighting and planning policies. We in the South Downs are one of only two international dark sky reserves in the UK – and one of only 16 in the world. As we're between London and the urban coastal strip, we're right on the front line of the dark sky agenda and so we have to constantly fight our corner to keep it that way – it's a big passion for me. We all have a responsibility to protect our natural environment, including the night sky. This group has meant I've been able educate my fellow members of parliament and drive awareness of the issues.

As an MP, my priorities are guided by my own policy and constituency interests - but every day, I'm also exposed to a huge wave of feedback through my surgeries, through my mailbox and through what I observe living here. My local priorities are naturally an amalgam of all three.

One rallying point, though, is nature and the focus of my local work is to keep our special countryside special. This includes keeping our roads safe and quiet, making sure our waters are

abundant and clean, protecting our environment and not encroaching on it through over development. Indeed, my first role in government was as the UK's Net Zero Business Champion in the run up to COP26, the climate summit in Glasgow.

A big issue I'm working on at the moment is developing greater measures to tackle anti-social driving and road noise. We're in continued overleaf



Community champion: Andrew Griffith presents a certificate recognising the role of Colin Woods, proprietor of Amberley Village Stores



continued from previous page

the design stage of a Community Highways Scheme in Bury Hill to address the use of local roads as a high-speed racetrack by a hardcore minority of bikers, making the roads dangerous for other users as well as creating noise blight. I'd really like to make a difference on this by working with the police and local communities on road design and enforcement. As MP, I've had an important role bringing different groups together.



Someone who has always enjoyed the wind of change: Andrew as a youngster

Life is busy – being both a constituency member of parliament and a minister in Westminster (I'm currently Economic Secretary to the Treasury) means there are a lot of demands on my time. When Parliament is sitting, I'm in London from Monday to Wednesday – and sometimes Thursday – but I'm always back in West Sussex on a Thursday night, ready to bounce out of bed early on Friday morning for a busy day in the community. I continue my constituency work over the weekend, often reserving Sunday for my paperwork. There isn't a lot of time off – but the job's a privilege to do.

Parliament is much more formal than the world of business. There are 650 MPs and when I started, it felt like I was joining a big secondary school – finding my office and a peg and my way around the place. Then I had to build both my own small team from scratch and my peer network, from across all the political parties. The timetabling of parliamentary debates is probably the biggest challenge for me, coming from the more linear world of business. Because the issues we discuss need to be very reactive to current events and issues of the day, often I don't know on a Monday what we will be discussing on a Wednesday.

My children are 19 and 21 now, so my wife and I are just becoming empty nesters. We have two dogs that help to fill the gap though – a labrador and a working cocker spaniel. When I'm not in Parliament, I do an early morning and early evening dog walk on the South Downs – the Wildbrooks, Bignor Hill and Graffham Common (de-



spite the summer adders) are all regular haunts.

The thing I like the most about being a local member of Parliament in the South Downs is that we have such a rich sense of community. COVID really brought that out – we saw that

in Amberley with people coming together and with The Sportsman and the Village Stores delivering meals and food boxes for people – we do community really well. It's lovely to celebrate that. It's often easier to see the fruits of my constituency work than it is on my more abstract work in Westminster – and I draw a huge amount of energy from that.

I hope to succeed in politics by being quietly competent. Hopefully, the things I did for 30 years before I became an MP will count for something, and if the Prime Minister wants to use some of

that experience in a ministerial capacity, then I'm happy to contribute as a team player. But my ultimate employers are my constituents – and I have 88,000 of those! I love being the local member of Parliament in such a beautiful part of the country. Whatever happens in my ministerial role, my 88,000 local bosses will always come first.

Interview by Susan Watson

CALLING ALL SINGERS

If you're new to Amberley, you may not have heard about

AMBERLEY VILLAGE SINGERS

We meet once a fortnight on Monday evenings at 5pm in Amberley Parish Hall for an hour of singing an eclectic mix of traditional and folk songs, with an occasional modern standard added for variety.

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AMBERLEY SOCIETY

The delights of a downland butterfly walk The rescheduled Amberley Society summer meeting

The rescheduled Amberley Society summer meeting was certainly dramatic. What developed was a sensational and memorable experience in which naturalist Michael Blencowe opened up a fascinating world of nature right on our doorstep.

To many people the surrounding hills are things to walk up to see a panoramic view – what he showed, with his inimitable humour, is how to discover the real beauty and wonder of the South Downs.

Michael Blencowe writes: There was an amber weather warning with heavy rain showers from 10-midday but, as a small crowd gathered up at High Titten, it seemed 21 Amberley Society folk were either

very hardy or hadn't seen the forecast. The first small shower started right on cue and, I must admit, my confidence in seeing any butterflies on this butterfly walk started to wane. However, the rain quickly passed and as the sun re-appeared so

did the butterflies.



You've never seen blue until you have seen an Adonis Blue

We soon saw Green-veined White, Gatekeeper, Meadow Brown, Holly Blue, Speckled Wood, Small Copper and, Grahame Joseph's favourite, the Small Heath. We spotted a family of Spotted Flycatchers catch-

ing flies as they prepared to head south to Africa, and a grey heron looked a bit out of place sat in a tree in the coombe.

Our first target for the morning was the dazzling Adonis Blue because, as I told the group, you've never seen blue until you've seen an Adonis Blue in the sun in Sussex. Amberley Mount represents this butterfly's most westerly point in Sussex.



Tough going: Tim Ashby made it despite replacement joints



Downland detectives in search of butterflies

We descended into Medley Bottom with clear blue skies overhead and we soon located some Adonis Blues flying on the south-facing turf amongst the Round-headed Rampions and Carline Thistles. We also found Common Blue and Chalk Hill Blue here.

We then headed into the valley and soon found another target species, my favourite insect, the mighty Hornet Robberfly. I made a few attempts to catch one in my butterfly net, deftly sweeping my net at them as they sat taunting me on the cowpats. I was a bit worried that smacking my net into a cowpat may result in the group going home with some unwanted freckles – but I eventually caught one of these impressive beasts and put it in a small pot so everyone could get a closer view.

Then it was up onto the flower-rich slopes which were looking amazing. Among the knapweeds, scabious, vetches and marjoram we found our final target – the Autumn Lady's Tresses. This diminutive, elegant orchid with white flowers spiralling up the stem is a real beauty but also a sign that summer is coming to an end.

We climbed out of the valley (and spotted the distinctive Wasp Spider in her web), back onto the South Downs Way and down to Amberley.

Thank you to everyone who came along, it was a really enjoyable event. Hopefully I'll see you again on another wildlife walk in some of the great habitats around the village.

Hallowe'en at the museum

A special Hallowe'en evening at Amberley Museum is being held during half-term on October 28, from 6.30pm-9pm. There will be rides on the ghost train to discover who – or what – is lurking in the woods, and other attractions.

Tickets, which must be booked in advance, cost £12.50. The event is not suitable for children under the age of 12.





Village pond clear-up

A small team assisted Pam Keeble, Amberley's pond and tree warden, clearing encroaching vegetation from the edge of the village pond. Left unattended, there would have been too many nutrients as there are sufficient already from falling leaves. There is currently a thick layer of blanket weed covering the pond. Pictured (from the left) are Dave Cole, Peter Rhodes and Graham Stevenson.

Hedgelaying on Amberley Millennium Green

As part of our aim to increase biodiversity within the Millennium Green, with the support of South Downs National Park and the Amberley Climate Action and Nature Recovery Group, we will be laying the hedgerow on the northern boundary (running alongside Hurst Cottages) this autumn/winter.

Hedgelaying is a country craft and has been practised for hundreds of years. A laid hedge has many benefits for nature, providing essential habitats for wildlife to feed, shelter and travel. It is also a way of managing the hedgerow, enabling a dense growth throughout. Over management by trimming to the same height each year degrades the hedge over time, until it is hollow at the base and provides very little shelter for wildlife.

Removal of the existing fence (Saturday, November 11 – we will break at 11.00am for two minutes silence) will be a community event starting at 9.30am, so do come along and join us. You will need to bring protective eyewear and protective gloves. Wire cutters, loppers and secateurs will also be helpful.

During the period between fence removal and hedgelaying, please be aware that there will be gaps in the hedgerow which dogs may be able to get through. When laying the hedge in mid-January, we will aim to fill these gaps with natural materials such as coppiced hazel stakes.

If you have any questions or would like further information, contact the trustees via amberleymillenniumgreen@gmail. com or call Ruth Stevens on (07857) 632846.

New concert season

The first of the new season of Chichester Chamber Concerts gets underway on October 5, featuring the Castalian Quartet, Royal Philharmonic Society prize-winners and resident ensemble at Oxford University.

The programme comprises Mozart's *String Quartet in D minor K 421*, Mark-Anthony Turnage's *String Quartet Awake* and Beethoven's *String Quartet Op 130 with Grosse Fugue*.

The venue is the Assembly Room in North Street, Chichester, and the concert starts at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £20, with under-25s free, and are available from Chichester Festival Theatre Box Office on (01243) 781312.

THE ARTS SOCIETY WEST SUSSEX

The Idea and Reality

The hugely influential Bauhaus art school, founded in 1919 in Weimar, is the subject of this month's talk, on October 3, for members of the Arts Society of West Sussex. Gavin Plumley will explore its legacy in our world and our homes today.

Next month (November 7) will be a talk entitled the Gleaming Spires of London, examining the evolution of the capital through its great buildings.

The venue is Fittleworth Village Hall and the talks start at 2pm, with coffee and tea afterwards. Non-members welcome for a payment of £7 (cash only). For further information contact Jackie Buckler on (01903) 411086.

Quiz night

Storrington & District Museum is organising a fundraising quiz night at Sullington Hall on Saturday, October 28. There will be tables of six for groups of friends, or simply join a group on the night. Tables and places must be booked in advance as numbers are limited and it starts a 7pm. Tickets cost £10 and include a light supper. To book, call (01903) 746569 and pay on the night.

STORRINGTON FILM NIGHTS

Allelujah

When the geriatric ward in a small Yorkshire hospital is threatened with closure, the hospital decides to fight back by galvanising the local community.

Allelujah, starring Jennifer Saunders, Derek Jacobi, and Judi Dench, is this month's choice for the Rotary Club of Storrington & Pulborough District's film night at Sullington Hall, Storrington.

The performance is at 7.30pm and tickets, priced £5, are available in advance from the Card Shop in Storrington, or at the door on the night.



The Hallraisers Amberley Roving Supper 23

We hope you are aware of the Amberley Roving Supper on Saturday, October 21, and are thinking of joining in. All the funds raised will help refresh St Michael's Church Hall.

We really want to ensure this is an inclusive event, so if you still have questions after reading this, please contact us.

We realise that a roving supper may be new to some and therefore it might be useful to answer some practical questions about how the evening works.

Here's some questions that we have been asked...

Q: If I host, who chooses my guests?

A: The logistics can be complex but we manage all of that and take into consideration all those taking part, where they live, dietary requirements etc and choose, with good local knowledge, your guests. Guest lists will be revealed to hosts on the night to keep it all a surprise and that's all part of the fun.

Q: Will there be different groups for every course?

A: Yes, we mix all the guests through the evening so that we either get to know or speak to lots of different people.

Q: What about if I live on the edge of the village?

A: Please do sign up or speak to us, we will ensure your guests are able to get to you, we'd love you to take part.

Q: I have specific dietary requirements how will these be catered for?

A: Don't worry, we ask you about any dietary requirements when you sign up and ensure your hosts are aware. We want this to be inclusive for everyone in the village so we will ensure your dietary requirements are catered for.

Q: When will I know if my guests have dietary requirements?

A: We work out the plan for the evening a week before, so if you're hosting a starter or main then you will hear from us on the 14th Oct about any guest dietary requirements.

Q: What about if I am on my own, can I still join in?

A: Absolutely, the only reason we suggest pairing up with someone is to share the workload of hosting but you are very welcome to host any course alone.

Q: I'd like to take part but I don't have the facilities to host?

A: Don't worry, you can sign up for the dessert or cheese course, which you can host in the church hall.



Q: Who supplies the drinks?

A: Drink is provided at the reception but we ask the hosts to supply the drinks for each course. That way you can choose what works with your menu.

Q: If I'm hosting a main course, how do I get back from being a guest at a starter elsewhere?

A:...good question, the times will allow you and everyone time to move between venues but if you are hosting a main you need to think about a dish that you can serve as soon as your guests arrive. We will provide timings for the evening to you once you have signed up.

Q: I'm thinking about hosting the dessert/cheese course, how does this work?

A: You will need to make (of buy!) and dessert or cheese board for 6 or 8 people, and provide the drinks to accompany. Around 18.30 on the evening take them along to the Church Hall and set them out on a table. Then join the reception at David and Lillis Lyon. Following your main course you head back to the Hall, where you will host your table...

Q: How do I sign up?

A: Please complete the booking form on the facing page or pop into Amberley Village Stores and pick up a form, complete and return to the shop.

Q: I have another question, who could I speak to?

A: If you have any other question or just want to chat to us before you sign up, please phone or message...

- Sheena Skinner 0788 9758174
- Mandy Fay 07717 792879
- Dave Curry 07918 887515

We really hope you are able to join us, it is a great way to meet new people, catch up with friends in the village and raise funds for our Church Hall.

Thank you.







The Hallraisers Introduce...

Amberley's Autumn Roving Supper 23 on Saturday 21st October

Drinks 7.00pm, at David and Lillis Lyon, Oak Tree House, host a course and rove around our beautiful village, all served in different homes with different guests, before heading back to St Michael's Church Hall for dessert/cheese.

This will be an exciting way to catch up with old friends and make new ones – whilst raising important funds for our St Michael's Church Hall!

Host a course, which is really fun, for six or eight people (including yourself/ves) with surprise guests and engaging activities being revealed through the evening.

Hope you can join us for a special evening, fabulous food, stimulating conversation and the thrill of meeting new people in our big-hearted community.

Please complete the form below and either return it to either Amberley Village Stores or email to mandydfay@gmail.com: **by Wednesday, 11**th **October 2023,** you will then be contacted to confirm spaces and be provided with payment details

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Amberley Eco Hub launched

Amberley Eco hub got off to a flying start on a Saturday morning at the end of September.

We were delighted with the number of people who came and supported us. Electrical items repaired included a vacuum cleaner, three lamps, an electric fan, a clasp and an iron, with work in progress on a microwave, juicer and lamp. Textile repairs included jeans, a dress, and replacement zips. All electrical items are PAT-tested before they leave the Repair Café.

In addition, we have refills of eco-friendly household and personal care liquids for sale including washing up liquid, hand wash, shampoo, body wash and laundry liquid. Buying refills saves 70 per cent of CO2, 65 per cent of energy and 45 per cent of water compared with buying a new product. It's also cheaper, as with refills you don't pay for the cost of the container.

The ongoing recycling scheme that has been running in the village since December 2019, set up by Hazel Allinson, has expanded over the years and waste of all types gets recycled by Terracycle schemes – an innovative recycling company.

The hub will be held monthly and the next two sessions for this year are October 28 and December 2, from 10am until 12 noon in St Michael's Church Hall.

The hub will resume in January on the fourth Saturday of the month. After our first session we have decided to introduce a booking system for the Repair Café, with an allocated time slot so items can be booked in advance by e-mailing amberleyecohub@gmail.com

We have a collection of flexible plastics that go to supermarkets to be recycled. Items that cannot be recycled by West Sussex County Council are collected and taken once a month to Horsham to be packaged and sent off to Terracycle

by Sussex Green Living.

As we have run out of landfill space in West Sussex, all our general waste is now transported to Redhill to go into Surrey landfill for which WSCC has to pay. In Amberley we recycle about six cloth bags (the equivalent size of bin liners), every fortnight which would otherwise go into landfill. Collections will continue to be fortnightly – one of these as before



Environmentally aware: a good turn-out for the first Eco Hub with bins/boxes in the village bus shelters and also at every Ecohub gathering, where advice can be given and questions answered about recycling in general.

The need for repair cafés has never been greater. The UK is the second largest producer of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) per capita in the world. In 2019, we produced a total of 1.6 million tonnes of e-waste, equating to approximately 23.9kg of waste per person.

In 2021/22 West Sussex residents threw away nearly 5,800 tonnes of unwanted clothes, towels, blankets and sheets into their general rubbish, even though most of these textiles could have been repaired, reused or recycled.

One solution to avoid textile and electrical waste is visiting a repair café. There are now approximately 170 in the UK and growing, with over 2,000 across the world. Repair cafés are run by volunteers who look to mend electrical, mechanical and textile items, preventing them from being thrown away.

For our own repair café in Amberley, the planning has been going on for the past year, researching the most popular repair services, finding volunteers with suitable knowledge, expertise and availability, arranging insurance, buying equip-

ment, arranging a venue, health and safety considerations and then the fun launch last Saturday!

We are intending as time goes on, to have visits from experts on green energy, reducing our carbon footprint and avoiding food waste and plans are afoot to include tool sharpening to the repair café when we can.

Thanks for your support.



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The Wiggonholt Association

Following the winding-up earlier this year of the Wiggonholt Association, Janet Aidin recounts its successes during its 27-years of campaigning and its engagement in local environmental issues

The Wiggonholt Association was dissolved and removed from the Register of Charities on August 25, 2023. Its 27 years of existence began in 1996 with the dramatic and sudden proposal by West Sussex County Council to extract sand opposite the RSPB reserve at Wiggonholt. Our extensive membership came from Wiggonholt itself, but also from the wide area affected by the proposals (Storrington, Sullington, West Chiltington, Nutbourne, Mare Hill, Pulborough, Rackham and Amberley).

By 2001 the WA had seen off the quarrying proposal after two public inquiries and a very great deal of work. We scoured documents, we lobbied, we visited working sandpits with their lunar landscapes and, above all, we raised funds. We were not above stunts: we took the County Minerals Department,

Minister Michael Meacher and local councillors round the small lanes of Rackham in a large bus of HGV size, which got stuck as it tried to pass Antonia Maas (late of Amberley) in her pony and trap. We worked frantically to time limits, but we had a lot of fun.

Sand extraction is lucrative. It does not go away easily while there are deposits in the ground. We worked, watched and waited. After the second inquiry we decided to give wider scope to our experience. We were incorporated as an envi-

ronmental charity covering the West Sussex area. There was an educational angle: we arranged regular public discussion of live issues - how to build from recycled materials, sustainable design, sustainable transport, the expansion of Gatwick Airport, how to manage waste including food waste, the merits of fracking, and much more. Our speakers were experts in their field, along with members of the various planning authorities. Often our MP took part. We got together our local and parliamentary election candidates in public and questioned them all about their environmental policies. We had big audiences. We visited a modern incinerator, landfill sites, also the new sustainable community of Poundbury in Dorset and other places of thoughtful housing design, both marketled and affordable. In 2009 we gave the first local screening of Al Gore's seminal climate-change film The Age of Stupid, a necessary introduction by the WA to this important debate.

In 2010 Wiggonholt came within the new South Downs National Park boundary. The WA sponsored an electrically-driven pleasure boat (The Wiggonholt) on the Wey & Arun Canal. We set up a local transport information service which was subsequently handed over to Pulborough Parish Council. In 2013 we acquired and restored a redundant telephone kiosk at North Stoke for the use of walkers and visitors to the National Park. This is just a sample of our events and activities.

Throughout we were consulted on Neighbourhood Plans and Local and National Strategic Plans. These contained specialist environmental policies on minerals and waste, but also more general policy areas such as housing allocation. There were defined consultations on, for example, regional planning and the Arundel bypass. The Strategic Plans covered areas inside and outside the South Downs National Park, which eventually developed its own planning regime. Our sustained interest and application in these matters over a long period gave the WA some local standing. During lockdown we worked hard on the review of the West Sussex Minerals Local Plan. Sadly, our arguments for preserving Sullington Chantry (SDNP) from future extraction were overruled. This decision will eventually join up the area of sand-working between Storrington and Washington. This will come as a surprise to the public when it eventually happens, partly because they as-

sume (correctly) that the National Park is a protected area.

Why then did we decide to wind-up the charity? There are three main reasons:

First, volunteering is falling off. This is partly age-related, and certainly people no longer want the discipline of reading and understanding increasingly

complex planning documents. The Federation of Sussex Amenity Societies (of which the Amberley Society and the WA were once members) went long ago. Residents' Associations seem to be going the same way.

The second change is in the implementation of development control (what most people call "planning"). It has ceased to be effective to argue on sound policy considerations. We came to realise that the policy merits were increasingly outweighed by political considerations. When a once-effective charity can no longer influence planning outcomes, we may expect to see intelligent adults resorting to glue and other antics.

The third point is more deep-seated. Local strategic plans such as the Minerals Local Plan now evolve differently. At Public Inquiry, the important principle of being able to test evidence by cross-examination has been replaced by roundtable discussion. The effect, in our view, has also been to displace the potency of arguments by local groups (sometimes the communities most affected). Unlike other development,





The Wiggonholt Association-sponsored electrically-powered pleasure boat on the Wey & Arun Canal



continued from previous page

minerals extraction is famously 'temporary development' ie the land reverts to nature once the material has been extracted.

This has been so since planning controls were introduced over a century ago, inducing communities to put up with extraction for years at a time. Only now it is not unusual for extracted sites to undergo permanent development. The philosophy is still in place, but adherence to it is not. This is the most significant change we have seen, for countryside once developed will never return.



The association converted the former telephone kiosk at North Stoke into a visitor information point

We have been privileged to engage in local environmental issues for 27 years. Other specialist groups will continue this work. One such is the Campaign to Protect Rural England which broadly shares the objectives of the WA. We have transferred our remaining assets (including the telephone kiosk at North Stoke) to CPRE, and we are sure it will use them wisely.

Janet Aidin

(former Company Secretary, The Wiggonholt Association)

Brakes about to be applied?

The future of the Community Speedwatch group for Amberley is in doubt unless a new co-ordinator and volunteers can be found.

Community Speedwatch is a national initiative where proactive members of local communities join with the support and supervision of their local police to record details of speeding vehicles, using approved detection devices.

Registered keepers of vehicles exceeding the speed limit are contacted – initially with a letter explaining the potential risks and consequences of their dangerous behaviour. Repeat offenders receive a visit from the local police.



Anyone interest-

ed in volunteering should contact Amberley Parish Council's clerk, Vicky Spiers, on (01903) 208943 or e-mail clerk@amberley-pc.org.uk

DESERT ISLAND PLANTS with David Lyon An unexpected arrival - Paulownia Tomentosa



I first saw Paulownia Tomentosa in full flower at President Andrew Jackson's house at Nashville, where there is a magnificent avenue of them. It is a native of Asia, particularly valued in Japan, where it is used to make a musical instrument, the Koto, and other household objects.

The tree was named, by the German naturalist Franz von Siebold, after Anna Pavlovna of Russia (1795-1865), Queen of the Netherlands. Quite why I have been unable to discover. It is also known as the Princess Tree, Empress Tree or Foxglove Tree after the shape of the scented flowers.

The original Paulownia at Oak Tree was planted, together with many other new trees, now totalling over 70 species, after the great storm of 1987, when 29 mature trees were blown down. Most of the kitchen furniture and fittings were built by Christian Nimmo, who then lived at Lindells, from the chestnut, walnut and apple recovered.

Two years ago, the Paulownia produced a small insignificant sucker but this year a new sucker appeared in early April, which has grown over 150 days to a height of 3 metres: some 20 centimetres a day. The leaves are up to 80 centimetres across. Research online recommends cutting this year's growth to the ground in April next year in the expectation of a repeat performance next year.



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AMBERLEY WELFARE TRUST

A community trust with funds donated by local people to support local residents

Financial help for needs related to health and wider well-being.

Examples include

- Support with food or heating costs
- Help with costs of physiotherapy or mobility equipment
 - Assistance with travel costs for hospital visits

Do you or anyone you know need support with these or other similar needs?

As many costs including energy bills are rising people are finding it harder to manage. Working together with St Michael's Church and Amberley Parish Council we want to offer help and support.

Don't suffer in silence!

Please get in touch as we will listen and may well be able to help. Any conversations will be kept strictly confidential.

We will do whatever we can and as quickly as possible.

Contact

Grahame Joseph, Chair of the Welfare Trust (01798 831340)
Rev Gerry Burgess (01798 831600, revgerryburgess@gmail.com)



A Castle for all Occasions

PAINTING MASTERCLASS & AFTERNOON TEA

5th October

11.00am – 5.00pm

Painting largely landscapes, seascapes and garden scenes in acrylic, watercolour and oil, Mark Weston is a talented artist who has drawn and painted in West Sussex throughout his life. With Mark as your guide, head outside to paint Amberley Castle, before joining us for a superb afternoon tea. Price: £125

To make a reservation, e-mail info@amberleycastle.co.uk or call 01798 831 992



www.amberleycastle.co.uk



At Sullington Parish Hall
Wednesday 11th October 2023



Performance commences at 7.30pm

There will be an interval and Bar & Raffle.

Tickets £5 from 'The Card Shop' in Storrington.

Unsold tickets will be available for purchase on the door on the night.

For further details please contact Ken Collins on 01903 740745

Rotary Club Members can provide transport to the Film Night for local residents who are unable to make their own arrangements. Anyone needing transport should contact

John Ollerton on 07523322554

Storrington & Pulborough District Rotary Club

All proceeds go to charitable causes supported by Rotary. Registered Charity No.1029115

Lee & Sophie welcome you to

The Sportsman

OPENING HOURS

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday-Thursday: 12 noon-3pm & 5pm-10pm

Friday & Saturday:

12 noon-10pm

Sunday: 12 noon-5pm

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It's all happening at Amberley Museum

It has been a busy summer and autumn for Amberley Museum, with a visit by the High Sheriff of West Sussex, the official opening of an historic signal box originally located at Billingshurst and a special event this month to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the iconic Land Rover.

The High Sheriff, Andy Bliss, visited in September to celebrate the work of the museum's volunteers, paying tribute to their amazing efforts. Meeting both visitor-facing and those with behind-thescenes roles, he was interested to learn

something about their individual areas of expertise and also about their personal motivations and the social benefits of volunteering.

Commented museum director, Katrina Burton: "The High Sheriff visits many voluntary organisations across the county, but I think he was really impressed with the wide range of volunteer opportunities here at Amberley, and the way in which volunteers are at the heart of what we do."



There are over 40 exhibit areas at the museum including the narrow-gauge railway, historic buses, rural crafts and extensive communications displays which are all brought alive with a team of more than 350 volunteers.

The Billingshurst signal box is a rare Saxby and Farmer type, dating from before 1876. It was originally sited by the Billingshurst

level crossing and was built for the London, Brighton & South Coast Railway. It is a welcome addition to the muse-um's railway collection and complements the ticket office, originally from Hove. The signal box was listed, and when Network Rail decided to widen the level crossing and modernise the signalling system, it was decided to save the box by offering it to the museum.

Visitors to the 75th anniversary celebration of the Land Rover on Sunday, October 8, will be able to see and photograph a huge variety of the vehicles dating from 1948 onwards including classics, specials, service, military and modern day models.





High Sheriff Andy Bliss (centre) pictured with Richard Vernon, chair of Amberley Museum and Heritage Centre, and Katrina Burton, museum director

At the end of September, the annual bus show saw vehicles from the museum's collection, the Southdown Omnibus Trust collection and a number of visiting buses, and on October 1, the return of the popular Historic Autumn Gathering brings together more than 150 vehicles from vintage cars, commercial and public transport vehicles, stationary engines and motorcycles, reflecting over 100 years of transport history.

• If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about volunteering at Amberley Museum, contact it via the website 'Volunteer - Amberley Museum' and join an introductory tour with its volunteer manager to find out more.



CAMEO

COME AND MEET EACH OTHER



Cottle and Meet Each Other

An informal monthly group for all

St Michael's Church Hall, Church Street, Amberley

2nd Tuesday of each month 2.00-3.30pm

Tea and cake, time to chat, with a variety of activities and occasional speakers.

Come and bring your ideas and interests, be part of this community venture!

Need transport? No problem!

Contact Hazel Allinson, transport co-ordinator (831159)

MUSIC AT THE VICARAGE

Thursday 12th October 11am and 2.30pm

Libby Burgess

Two short piano recitals

Music by Johann Sebastian Bach, Johannes Brahms,



Clara Schumann, Amy Beach & John Ireland

Come for coffee from 10.30 or stay for a cup of tea after the 2.30 performance.

Amberley New Vicarage School Road, BN18 9NA

Seating is limited so please book a place in advance: 01798 831600 stevegerryburgess@gmail.com

Admission free but donations are invited, to be divided between Libya Flood Appeal and St Michael's Church







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A swirl of starlings: seven is the magic number

A flurry of wings, a cacophony of noise and a gang of starlings emerge from the blackberry bushes where they have been feasting.

Noisy and gregarious, starlings make for an impressive sight and sound; females in the same colony lay their first clutch of eggs synchronously so the youngsters fledge together and form a flock that roams around the RSPB reserve through the summer and autumn. There is a mixture of adults and youngsters; the adult's plumage shot through with iridescent greens and purples and the juveniles with paler brown plumage.

Starlings are impressive mimics, able to imitate the songs and calls of other birds and even mechanical sounds – I can hear musical warbling, busy clicks and chatters, along with high whistles.

Starlings will use the nature reserve and probably your garden all year round but in winter our resident population is boosted by migrant birds from mainland Europe. It is these large winter flocks that put on the most incredible aerobatic displays, swirling through the evening skies.

Known as a murmuration for the noise generated by thousands of beating wings and calls, it is thought that the display acts as an open invitation, designed to attract more starlings to join the night-time roost. A larger roost means the benefits of shared warmth, the opportunity to exchange information on the best feeding places and, perhaps most crucially, there can be safety in numbers – if you're part of a bigger group it reduces the chance of you being the one that gets eaten!

But it's not just about probability; collectively there are more eyes and ears to detect predators, such as a peregrine falcon and the whirling, swirling mass makes it harder for the predator to focus on a single victim.

The flock moves together as one, twisting and turning in what appears to be a well-rehearsed routine, but this is not a pre-choreographed dance with a designated leader; it is the combined action of thousands of independent birds. With so many taking part, how do the flowing movements of the flock occur without collisions?

As part of the flock each starling must observe what others around them are doing, keep track of their neighbours and adjust accordingly. They must follow a simple set of rules:

Rule 1: don't get too close, avoid collisions.

Rule 2: don't get too far away from another bird or from the centre of the flock.



A flurry of wings, a cacophony of noise: starlings at the RSPB

Rule 3: fly in a parallel direction in the same way as your neighbour.

Computer simulations of starling murmurations suggest that seven is the magic number – each bird must keep track of seven neighbours and adjust their speed and direction accordingly to keep from chaos!

Three cheers for the hoverfly

Everyone loves bees, don't they? Knowing that our bees are in decline has prompted protests and petitions and highlighted the important service these buzzing pollinators provide to our planet. Without them our crops and ecosystems would collapse. Yet many other pollinators that provide the same service don't get the same level of public support. So today I'm waving my flag for the hoverflies.

For some reason, they're not as loveable as bees. Perhaps it's because most of the time people mistake them for wasps. This isn't totally our fault because that's exactly what the hov-



Pollinator and pest controller: the versatile hoverfly



erflies want you to think. The 283 species of hoverfly in the UK come in many shapes, colours and sizes but most of them sport yellow and black stripes, making them easily confused for wasps, bees, hornets and bumblebees. It's a strategy



Hypersonic hoverfly: a remarkable 120 wing beats per second

called Batesian mimicry and was first proposed by Leicestershire lepidopterist Henry Bates in 1861. Hoverflies are harmless. They don't sting and can't bite but they have discovered you don't actually have to be dangerous to deter predators – you just have to look like something that's dangerous.

Yet their devious mimicry isn't the most incredible thing about them. Their wings are the things. Hoverflies (like all flies)

have just two wings (half as many wings as bees and wasps). Whereas other flies keep their wings straight, hoverflies incline theirs to create an angled downward stroke at a remarkable rate of 120 beats per second. This allows hoverflies to fly to a most amazing place: nowhere. Hoverflies have become the motionless masters of mid-air.

It's not all sitting around in the sky though. During their few days of life, hoverflies fight, fornicate and feed and while busy collecting energy-giving nectar and protein-rich pollen they inadvertently provide that vital pollination service to our flowers and crops. And hoverflies have earned the title of "The Gardeners' Friend" because about 40 per cent of them have a larval stage which is basically a tiny, crawling stomach that roams around your flowerbed eating aphids. Pollination, pest control – next thing you know these beneficial little insects will be mowing the front lawn for us, too.

So why not thank these friendly flies by planting some of their favourite flowers in your garden – parsley, fennel, borage, hebe, sedum and alliums – and consider putting in a pond, no matter how small. Do your bit for the pollinators and they'll keep the world working for us.

Michael Blencowe

Sussex Wildlife Trust

• Sussex Wildlife Trust is an independent charity caring for wildlife and habitats throughout Sussex. Founded in 1961, it has worked with local people for over half a century to make Sussex richer in wildlife. It relies on the support of its members to help protect our rich natural heritage. As a member you will be invited to regular wildlife walks and also enjoy free events, discounts on wildlife courses, *Wildlife* magazine and its Sussex guidebook, *Discovering Wildlife*.

It's easy to join online at sussexwildlifetrust.org.uk/join

Leek, Onion and Potato Soup

(This favourite is a Delia Smith recipe)

You need

4 large leeks

2 medium potatoes, peeled and diced

1 medium onion, chopped small

50g (2oz) butter

850ml (1.5 pints) light chicken stock or water

(275ml) 10fl oz milk

Salt and freshly milled black pepper

To serve

1.5 tablespoons fresh snipped chives (or, if unavailable, chopped parsley)

2 tablespoons cream or top of the milk

Method

- 1. Trim off the tops and roots of the leeks, discarding the tough outer layer. Now split them in half lengthways and slice them up quite finely; then wash them thoroughly in two or three changes of water to remove any soil. Drain well.
- 2. In a large, thick-based saucepan gently melt the butter, then add the leeks, potatoes and onion, stirring them all around with a wooden spoon so they get a nice coating of butter. Season with salt and pepper, then cover and let the vegetables sweat over a very low heat for about 15 minutes.
- 3. After that add the stock and milk, bring to simmering point, put the lid back on and let the soup simmer very gently for a further 20 minutes or until the vegetables are soft. If you have the heat too high, the milk in it may cause it to boil over. Now you can either put the whole lot into a liquidiser and blend to a puree, or press it all through a sieve.
- 4. Return the soup to the saucepan and reheat gently, tasting to check the seasoning, and stirring in the snipped chives and adding a swirl of cream just before serving.

Rhona Hoy

August rainfall

August proved a disappointing month, with 20 days of rain, amounting to a total of 60.9mm (2%in) compared with 45.1mm (1%in) during the same month last year.

Figures compiled by Peter Daughtrey



EDITORIAL

SOS - Save our Sportsman

With more than two pubs a day nationwide closing for good – a total of nearly 400 being demolished or converted to houses or other businesses during the first six months of this year alone – what future for the Sportsman now that Lee and Sophie Forbes have decided to call it a day?

If it is put on the market, as seems likely, the hope is it will be acquired and will continue as a pub. There can be few country inns with a better view than the Sportsman and the potential, with its five bedrooms, remains a real attraction, especially in view of its location close to the South Downs Way.

In the old days, 'public houses' were just that. Places where people gathered to socialise, seek entertainment, play games, drink and eat. Darts, cribbage, shove ha'penny, bar billiards and, more recently, quizzes were among the many distractions. Patrons of the Sportsman, which is thought to have been a pub for possibly 200 years, no doubt enjoyed all those activities in the past.

The real decline probably started with the introduction of the drink-driving restrictions in the late 1960s. Since the pandemic, and in the face of the ever increasing rise in the cost of living, fewer people go to pubs to drink or for entertainment. Good food is now much more the order of the day as demonstrated by the Black Horse, Bridge Inn, George & Dragon at Houghton and the Labouring Man at Coldwaltham. Accommodation, too, is a key factor for survival for many establishments.

What remains special about the Sportsman is that it is still seen as a 'local' where regulars do go for a drink and it is still regarded as a community asset.

If a buyer can't be found, do we mount a campaign similar to the Black Horse: SOS – Save our Sportsman. Is there an appetite to fight closure if that becomes a reality? Are there enough people out there with the energy and enthusiasm to mount a campaign?

With luck, someone will see the potential and invest in the improvements it so badly needs. Meanwhile, perhaps we should be considering our options.

It is with sadness that we see Lee and Sophie going – they did a magnificent job with their team of volunteers keeping us supplied with hot meals – and beer, too! – during the lockdowns. Let us not forget they prepared and delivered more than 3,400 meals to almost 160 households in the four parishes.

For that, we shall be forever grateful.

Mike Toynbee



Run of the Downs

The Weald is good, the Downs are best -

I'll give you the run of 'em, East to West.

Beachy Head and Winddoor Hill,

They were once and they are still.

Firle Mount Caburn and Mount Harry

Go back as far as sums'll carry.

Ditchling Beacon and Chanctonbury Ring

They have looked on many a thing,

And what those two have missed between 'em

I reckon Truleigh Hill has seen 'em.

Highden, Bignor and Duncton Down

Knew Old England before the Crown.

Linch Down, Treyford and Sunwood

Knew Old England before the Flood;

And when you end on the Hampshire side -

Butser's old as Time and Tide.

The Downs are sheep, the Weald is corn,

You be glad you are Sussex born!

Rudyard Kipling

Deadline for the November issue is Saturday, October 14

Contributions should be sent to the Editor, Brooklands, East Street, Amberley, BN18 9NN or e-mailed to mike@ brooklandsamberley.com



LOCAL INFORMATION

Refuse & Recycling Calendar

Household refuse collections (Amberley/Crossgates/Rackham, Mill Lane, High Titten, New Barn Road and Houghton Bridge): mixed dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) and garden waste (brown top bins for registered users only) will be collected on **Tuesdays**, **October 3**, **17** and **31**; collections for non-recyclable waste will be on **Tuesdays**, **October 10** and **24**.

For Church Street and Hog Lane, garden waste (brown top bins for registered users only) will be on **Mondays, October 2** and **16**; collections for non-recyclable waste will be on **Wednesdays, October 4** and **18**; mixed dry recyclable waste (blue top bins) will be collected on **Wednesdays, October 11** and **25**.

Opening hours for amenity tips

Billingshurst: 9am-6pm (closed Thursday and Friday); **Bognor:** 9am-6pm (closed Thursday and Friday); **Chichester (Westhampnett)** 9am-6pm (open daily); **Littlehampton** 9am-6pm (closed Tuesday and Wednesday). Proof of residency (ie driving licence) is required.

Monday Village Bus service to Storrington and Pulborough

Following the discontinuation of the Compass Bus service, the Village Bus has resumed its Monday morning service to Storrington and Puborough.

Amberley Square (depart)	10.15
Hurst Cottages	10.18
The Sportsman	10.20
Rackham Street	10.23
Storrington (arrive)	10.35
Pulborough (arrive)	11.00
Pulborough Sainsbury's (depart)	12.03
Pulborough Tesco	12.05
Storrington bus station	12.25
Rackham Street	12.35
The Sportsman	12.38
Hurst Cottages	12.40
Amberley Square (arrive)	12.41

Village Bus



On Monday, Wednesday and Thursday every week (plus the first Tuesday each month), the Amberley and Slindon Community Bus can take you to various destinations thanks to our team of volunteer drivers. We routinely stop at a range of places in Amberley, but as this is a 'hail-and-ride' service the driver will pick up and set down at your door on request (especially useful when you are returning home with shopping), or anywhere else en route. The fare is a flat-rate £3 per return journey, and Sussex County Card Holders and children under 14 travel free. Wheelchair users are welcome, but always ring ahead. To arrange a pick-up from your home, or to discuss becoming a volunteer driver, please call Philip Greenwood on (01798) 831 803. The full bus timetable can be found on the Amberley Parish Council website: www.amberley-pc.org.uk/

DAY	DESTINATION	DEPARTS AMBERLEY	TIME FOR SHOPPING / APPOINTMENTS	ARRIVES BACK IN AMBERLEY	
Mon Bognor For details of the Storrington & Pulborough service, see panel above		Rackham St 12.35pm Hurst Cott 12.40pm Square 12.41pm Bridge Inn 12.44pm	1.25pm to 3.30pm	4.12pm approx	
First Tues only	Worthing via Storrington (with around three-and-a-half hours before the return journey)	Bridge Inn 9.37am Square 9.40am Hurst Cott 9.43am Sportsman 9.45am Rackham St 9.48am	10.15am to 1.05pm	1.40pm approx	
Wed	Littlehampton & Rustington	Rackham St 9.32am Hurst Cott 9.35am Square 9.37am Bridge Inn 9.39am	10.05am to 12.31pm (Arundel) 10.15am to 12.20pm (Littlehampton) 10.25am to 12.10pm (Rustington)	1pm approx	
9.37 Hur 9.31 Sqt 9.37		Rackham St 9.32am Hurst Cott 9.36am Square 9.37am Bridge Inn	10.25am (Market) 10.30am (South Street/ West Street) to 1.30pm (Cathedral)	2.16pm approx	



LOCAL INFORMATION



Southern Trains Timetable (from May 21, 2023)

MONDAY-FRIDAY

From Amberley to London (Victoria except here shown): 05.54, 06.18, 06.44, 07.47, 08.17, 08.50, 09.17 and then at 17 minutes past the hour until 21.17 then 23.03 (change at Gatwick Airport).

Typical journey time to London Victoria: 1hr 27mins

From Pulborough to London (Victoria except where shown): 06.01, 06.24, 06.50, 07.26, 07.54, 08.23, 08.56, 09.24, 09.55 and then 24 and 55 minutes past the hour until 21.55 then 23.09 (change at Gatwick Airport).

Typical journey time to London Victoria: 1hr 19 mins.

From London Victoria to Amberley: 05:54, 06.35, 07.05, 07.35, 08.05, 08.35 and then at 35 minutes past the hour until 15.35, 16.05, 16.35, 17.35, 18.35 and then 05 and 35 minutes past each hour until 20.35, then 21.05, 21.35P&S, 22.05B&C, 22.35C.

Typical journey time from London Victoria: 1hr 22mins

From London Victoria to Pulborough: 05.54, 06.36, 07.06, 07.36, 08:05, 08.35 and then at 05 and 35 minutes past the hour until 21.05, then 21.35P&S, 22.05B&C, 22.35C. Typical journey time from London Victoria 1hr 15mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis except as shown): 06.40SC, 07.15SC, 07.55, 08.23, 08.58, 09.28, 09.58 and then 58 minutes past the hour until 16.58, then 17.28, 17.58, 18.58, 19.58, then 28 and 58 minutes past the hour until 22.27 then 22.51P&S, 23.21B&C, 23.52C.

P&S – Portsmouth & Southsea; **C** – Chichester; **B&C** Bognor and Chichester; **SC** – Southampton Central.

SATURDAY

From Amberley to London: 06.26, 07.17 and then at 17 minutes past the hour until 21.17 then 23.03 (change at Gatwick Airport). Additional train at 16.50.

Typical journey time to London Victoria: 1hr 27mins

From Pulborough to London: 06.32, 06.55 and then 24 and 55 minutes past the hour until 21.55 then 23.09 (change at Gatwick Airport).

Typical journey time: 1hr 19 mins

From London Victoria to Amberley: 06.35, and then at 35 minutes past the hour until 20.35 then 21.05, 21.35P&S, 22.05C, 22.35C.

Typical journey time from London Victoria: 1hr 22mins

From London Victoria to Pulborough: 06.05, 06.35, and then at 05 and 35 minutes past the hour until 20.35, then 21.05, 21.35P&S, 22.05C, 22.35C.

Typical journey time from London Victoria: 1hr 15mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis except as shown): 06.41SC, 07.58 and then 58 minutes past the hour (to Bognor) until 21.57, then 22.21, 22.51P&S, 23.21C, 23.53C.

P&S – Portsmouth & Southsea; **C** – Chichester; **SC** – Southampton Central.

SUNDAY

From Amberley to London Victoria: 07.58, 08.58 and then at 58 minutes past the hour until 21.58. From Pulborough: 6 minutes later.

Typical journey time to London Victoria: 1hr 21mins

From London Victoria to Amberley and Pulborough: 07.32, 08.32, 09.35 and then at 35 minutes past the hour until 22.35.

Typical journey time from London Victoria: 1hr 20mins

From Amberley to Arundel and beyond (all Bognor Regis and Portsmouth Harbour (divides at Barnham) except as shown): 09.01B, 09.58PH, 10.58PH, 11.55 and then 55 minutes past the hour until 21.55, then 22.56B and 23.55B.

B – Bognor Regis; PH – Portsmouth Harbour.

Typical journey time to Gatwick Airport: 52min

Compiled by Malcolm Pheasey

Local Farmers' Markets

Storrington Community Market

Village Hall, West Street Fridays (9.45am-11.15am)

Chichester

East and North Streets First and third Fridays (9am-2pm)

Ford

Ford Airfield First Saturday (7.30am-2pm)

Steyning

High Street Car Park First Saturday (9am-1pm)

Arundel

Town Centre Third Saturday (9am-1pm)

Pulborough Village Market

Village Hall Fourth Saturday (9am-12.30pm)

Petworth

Leconfield Hall and Square Fourth Saturday (9am-1pm)



Over the threshold

Record Inheritance Tax bills are a reminder of the need for good estate planning

here are few more confusing – or unpopular – taxes than Inheritance Tax (IHT). In October 2019, HM Revenue and Customs published *Estimated Costs of Tax Reliefs* indicating further confusion and inertia as it expects to see a 19% increase in IHT revenues over the next four years.

For older generations, paying up to 40% tax on what they leave behind is difficult to contemplate. For some children and grandchildren, grappling with IHT is something they are ill-equipped to do.

Yet more and more families are having to deal with IHT. The latest figures show that IHT receipts reached £5.1 billion in the 2019/2020 tax year, according to an HMRC tax report published in May 2020.

Once considered a tax on the truly affluent, IHT now affects more estates than ever

Although a fall of £0.4 billion from the previous year, this was likely due to the increase in the residence nil-rate band threshold, which has been introduced in stages since 2017-18.

It will undoubtedly come as a shock to discover that a large proportion of your wealth, which includes the family home, investments including Individual Savings Accounts (ISAs), life assurance plans not in trust, and even old family heirlooms might actually have to be sold to meet the tax liability on death.

The previous rises in receipts largely reflected the surge in residential property prices, as well as the recovery in other asset values, which has dragged more households into the IHT net. From April 2020, the residence nil-rate band rose to £175,000, for those who qualify.

Coupled with the fact that up to the first £325,000 of an individual's estate may be exempt from IHT, this will mean that, subject to certain conditions, a married couple and civil partners could have a combined tax-free estate worth £1,000,000 in the 2020/2021 tax year.

Despite this, at the heart of this problem remains the simple fact that IHT could be considered a voluntary tax; the Treasury relies on inertia and people's reluctance to confront the issue. The boost to the Treasury's coffers is a reminder of the damaging effect death duties can have on families' plans to create and pass on wealth. There are many perfectly

legitimate ways of mitigating IHT through foresight and careful financial planning. The mitigation of IHT does not require high-powered tax planning; only a willingness to discuss the issue, act and make use of the many options available, establishing trusts* where appropriate; and making use of annual exemptions such as gifting.

With careful IHT planning, more wealth could be retained to support future generations

The rules surrounding IHT on individuals domiciled in the UK – or resident – are complex. Certain transfers are also deemed exempt from the tax if they pass between a husband and wife or civil partners.

If you are uncertain about where you stand regarding IHT and would like to know more about how to minimise the sums falling into the hands of HMRC, or your local authority through long-term care fees, you should seek advice.

The levels and bases of taxation, and reliefs from taxation, can change at any time and are dependent on individual circumstances.

*Trusts are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

NIGEL EVANS DipPFS Principal

SPINNAKER WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Partner Practice of St. James's Place Wealth Management Tel: 07967 381341 nigel.evans@sjpp.co.uk www.spinnaker-wealth.co.uk



0 1010004110 (00 (01)



Slindon College is an Independent Day and Boarding School for boys aged 8-18, set in the historic Slindon House, located in the South Downs National Park.



Slindon College provides a stimulating, broad and balanced educational experience for pupils of all academic abilities, taking into account their strengths and talents.

The College offers outstanding transformative education and pastoral care for boys who will thrive in a specialist learning environment.

"This school has changed my son and our life for the better. Happy child, happy parents, happy home." Parent 2019

- High teacher to student ratio
- Day, Flexi/Weekly/Termly Boarding
- Bursaries & Scholarships available
- Local minibus pick up available
- Extensive enrichment program
- Visits welcome all year







OCTOBER DIVERSIONS

- 1. What was Inspector Morse's first name?
- 2. What is the land of giants called in Gulliver's Travels?
- 3. Who was Samuel Langhorne Clemens better known as?
- 4. In which ship did Francis Drake circumnavigate the globe?
- 5. Who is the current Speaker of the House of Commons?
- 6. What is the modern name for Madras?
- 7. Who wrote the 1939 book The Big Sleep?
- 8. What record label did the Beatles establish?
- 9. What is the significance of 33, 45 and 78?
- 10. Which car manufacturer produced a model called Cresta?
- 11. Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens are three of the five New York City's boroughs. What are the other two?
- 12. In which European capital city would you find Tivoli?
- 13. With what toy is the name Steiff commonly associated with?
- 14. Tick-tack-toe is an alternative name for which game?
- 15. Which stringed instrument is bigger than a violin but smaller than a cello?
- 16. What colour are the benches in the House of Lords?

- 17. Which character in Alice's Adventures in Wonderland muttered "Oh dear! I shall be late"?
- **18.** Moss, Rose, Starry and Bladder are amongst the varieties of which flower of the Silene genus?
- **19.** In Shakespeare's *King Lear*, which two daughters benefit initially from their father's rejection of the third daughter Cordelia?
- 20. The Crickets backed which famous singer-songwriter?
- 21. What is the common name of the Bubonic Plague in the Middle Ages?
- 22. Which children's TV programme featured Professor Yaffle (the wooden woodpecker)?
- 23. Who established Britain's first printing press in 1476?
- 24. What World War 2 operation was codenamed `Dynamo`?
- 25. What ball is worth three points in snooker?
- 26. Who sang with Serge Gainsbourg on the hit Je t'aime?
- 27. In which sport would you use a chucker?
- **28.** Name the fruit which earned its name from the way it hung in bunches like grapes?
- 29. Who sang the 1964 hit My Boy Lollipop?
- **30.** What is the currency of China? **Answers: p45**

QUICK CROSSWORD

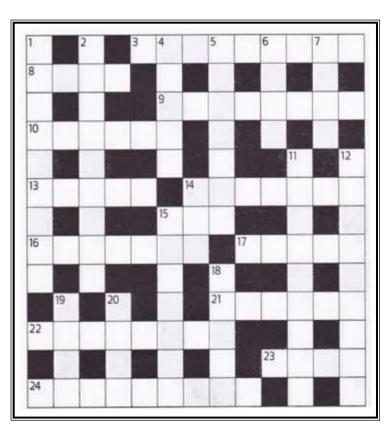
Across

- 2. Non-partisan (9)
- 8. Profound (4)
- 9. Popular pet (8)
- 10. Fault-finder (6)
- **13.** Nip (5)
- **14.** Exhaustion (7)
- **15.** Offspring (3)
- **16.** Function (7)
- 17. The 39...... , novel (5)
- 21. Type of hat (6)
- 22. Recover (8)
- 23. Azure (4)
- 24. List of contents (9)

Down

- 1. Schooling (9)
- 2. Outer boundary (9)
- 4. Tally (5)
- 5. Bogart film, The
- Queen (7)
- **6.** Norse god (4)
- 7. Part of a church (4)
- 11. Pleasant (9)
- 12. Daily publication (9)
- 14. Enemy (3)
- **15.** Pupil (7)
- 18. Lance (5)
- 19. Blood vessel (4)
- 20. Cole Porter song,
- Love (4)

Solution on page 45





OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS/TIDE TIMETABLE

1st Sunday

Autumn Historic Gathering, Amberley Museum, from 10am

2nd Monday

Bell ringing practice, St Michael's Church, 7.30pm (and every Monday at the same time)

3rd Tuesday

Talk: Bauhaus - The Idea and Reality, Arts Society of West Sussex, Fittleworth Village Hall, 2pm

5th Thursday

Yoga classes, St Michael's Church Hall, (1) 9.30am and (2) 10.45am (and every Thursday at the same time)
Painting Masterclass and Afternoon
Tea, Amberley Castle, 11am-5pm*
Chalkpath Theatre Workshop,
St Michael's Church Hall, 1.30pm-3.30pm (and every Thursday at the same time)

Music: Chichester Chamber Concerts (Castalian Quartet), Assembly Room, Chichester, 7.30pm

6th Friday

Macmillan Coffee Morning, St Michael's Church Hall,

10.30am-12 noon

7th Saturday

Concert: Vocal Fusion Acapella, St Peter's Church, Henfield, 4pm

8th Sunday

Land-Rover Day, Amberley Museum, from 10am

10th Tuesday

CAMEO (Come and Meet Each Other), St Michael's Church Hall, 2pm-3.30pm

12th Thursday

Music at the Vicarage (piano recital), 11am and 2

14th Saturday

Village Breakfast, Limeburners Café, Amberley Museum, 8.30am*

15th Sunday

Autumn Industrial Trains, Amberley Museum, from 10am

Littlehampton Tide Timetable – October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th
High 01.03	High 01.45	High 02.24	High 03.02	High 03.41	High 04.28	High 05.31
Low 06.57	Low 07.38	Low 08.18	Low 08.55	Low 09.34	Low 10.17	Low 11.18
High 13.26	High 14.06	High 14.43	High 15.19	High 15.57	High 16.47	High 17.57
Low 19.19	Low 19.59	Low 20.39	Low 21.17	Low 21.56	Low 22.46	
8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	13 th	14 th
Low 00.04	Low 02.06	Low 03.09	Low 03.55	Low 04.32	Low 05.06	Low 05.39
High 06.47	High 08.34	High 09.42	High 10.25	High 10.59	High 11.30	High 11.59
Low 13.17	Low 14.41	Low 15.34	Low 16.16	Low 16.50	Low 17.23	Low 17.54
High 19.20	High 21.09	High 22.02	High 22.40	High 23.12	High 23.40	
15 th	16 th	17 th	18 th	19 th	20 th	21 st
High 00.09	High 00.39	High 01.08	High 01.40	High 02.14	High 02.52	High 03.39
Low 06.10	Low 06.42	Low 07.11	Low 07.40	Low 08.15	Low 08.56	Low 09.49
High 12.25	High 12.54	High 13.24	High 13.56	High 14.30	High 15.11	High 16.03
Low 18.27	Low 18.57	Low 19.27	Low 19.58	Low 20.36	High 21.23	Low 22.22
22 nd	23 rd	24 th	25 th	26 th	27 th	28 th
High 04.43	High 06.36	Low 01.28	Low 02.45	Low 03.40	Low 04.26	Low 05.08
Low 11.01	Low 12.40	High 08.07	High 09.14	High 10.06	High 10.52	High 11.35
High 17.20	High 19.19	Low 14.11	Low 15.15	Low 16.04	Low 16.47	Low 17.30
Low 23.46		High 20.38	High 21.38	High 22.27	High 23.12	High 23.57
29 th	30 th	31 st				
Low 04.49	Low 05.30	High 00.20				
High 11.17	High 11.58	Low 06.11				
Low 17.11	Low 17.52	High 12.35				
High 23.39		Low 18.32				

TIDAL DIFFERENCES ON THE RIVER ARE +90 MINUTES AT HOUGHTON BRIDGE TIMES ADJUSTED FOR BST/GMT WHERE APPLICABLE: CLOCKS GO BACK SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29



COMPILED BY HAZEL ALLINSON

21st Saturday

Half-term Activities, Amberley Museum, from 10am Amberley Roving Supper, 7pm*

22nd Sunday

Half-term Activities, Amberley Museum, from 10am

25th Wednesday

Half-term Activities, Amberley Museum, from 10am (and daily until 29th)

28th Saturday

Amberley Eco Hub & Repair Café, St Michael's Church Hall, 10am-12pm Hallowe'en Evening, Amberley Museum, 6.30pm-9pm Quiz (on behalf of Storrington Museum), Sullington Hall, 7pm*

* Advance booking essential

For the diary

November 23 Amberley Scent Soirée, Amberley Castle

December 6 Christmas Village Lunch



AT YOUR SERICE (LOCAL TRADESMEN AND SERVICES)

Accommodation: B&B (graded)

Woodybanks Cottage, Amberley, lovely views across Wildbrooks; private sitting room, AA 4-star silver rating 01798 831295

Accommodation: self-catering

The Roost at Stream Barn, Amberley, Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence. (See advertisement for details) 01798 839320

Catering services

Jane Bellinger, professional *cordon bleu* chef for functions, parties, etc 01798 839433

Cleaning services

Sarah Gardner Carpet Cleaning 07979 656795

Estate Agents

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Jackson-Stops & Co, properties in every location 01903 885886 / 01243 786316

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Funeral Directors

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Garages, car servicing, repairs

Turner's Garage, Bury, MoTs, tyres, exhausts, brakes, batteries, shop 01798 831417

Garden

Rydon Landscapes, garden design and construction 01798 872359 / 07711 663862

We Love Plants, Nic Howard Garden Design, inspirational outdoor spaces 01883 744020

Heating oil / fuel / boiler engineers

Amberley Oil Syndicate, collective buying power for heating oil 01798 872371

M.D. Woodger, all types of domestic boiler maintenance and Agas 01730 894211

Home / household

Dressing Rooms, curtains and hand-made soft furnishings 01903 741251

Hotels / restaurants / cafes / tea rooms

Amberley Village Tea Room 01798 839196

Logs

Andy Johnson, seasoned logs cut to size; free kindling with each full load 07793 500129

Painting / decorating

Jonathan Capelin, quality interior and exterior decorator 01798 817402

Richard Sawyer, painter and decorator, roof repairs etc 01403 783115

R J Elliott & Son, complete decorating and maintenance 01903 732363 / 07903 260048

Retail

Amberley Village Pottery, hand-made pottery, gifts etc 01798 831876

Amberley Village Stores, grocery, wines, newspapers, Post Office 01798 831171

Schools

Dorset House, independent day and boarding school for boys and girls, 4-13 01798 831456

Slindon College, independent day and boarding school for boys aged 8-18 01243 814320

Taxis

Amberley Cars, locally-based lady driver, airports, ports etc 07939 263495

Well-being

Ayesha Yoga, beginners to advanced classes ayeshanauth@gmail.com 07957 252829

Detox Health Beauty, Sound bath etc info@detoxhealthbeauty.com

Marion Scotcher, foot health practitioner home visits by appointment 01798 875588

Robert Sadler, locally-based registered osteopath 01798 874736

Storrington Physiotherapy Clinic, Filipa Barnes & Sean Case 01903 743538

To advertise in these columns, contact Mike Toynbee on 01798 831 114 or email mike@brooklandsamberley.com

DIVERSIONS ANSWERS (see page 43)

Endeavour 2. Brobdingnag 3. Mark Twain 4. Golden Hind 5. Lyndsay Hoyle 6. Chennai 7. Raymond Chandler 8. Apple
 They were the turntable speeds on 1950s-60s record players 10. Vauxhall 11. The Bronx and Staten Island 12. Copenhagen
 Teddy bears. Margarete Steiff started producing them from a small workshop near Ulm, in Germany, in 1892 14. Noughts and crosses 15. Viola 16. Red 17. The White Rabbit 18. Campion 19. Goneril and Regan 20. Buddy Holly 21. The Black Death
 Bagpuss 23. William Caxton 24. The evacuation of Dunkirk 25. Green 26. Jane Birkin 27. Polo 28. Grapefruit 29. Millie (or Millie Small) 30. Renminbi

CROSSWORD

Across 2. Impartial 8. Deep 9. Tortoise 10. Critic 13. Tweak 14. Fatigue 15. Son 16. Operate 17. Steps 21. Panama 22. Retrieve 23. Blue 24. Inventory

Down 1. Education 2. Perimeter 4. Match 5. African 6. Thor 7. Apse 11. Agreeable 12. Newspaper 14. Foe 15. Student 18. Spear 19. Vein 20. True



PARISH DIRECTORY

Vicar		The Revd Gerry Burgess (revgerryburgess@gmail.com)	01798 831600
Churchwardens:	Amberley	Melanie Edge (mel.edge@me.com)	07973 163369
		Michael Davey (Secretary) (mpdavey@gmail.com)	07749 690024
	Greatham	Diana van der Klugt (dianavanderklugt@btinternet.com)	01798 875663
		Robert Englehart	01798 872502
	Parham	Valerie Myers (vmyers69@btinternet.com)	01903 742340
		Jill Sloan (Secretary) (jill@jsloan.com)	01798 872163
	Wiggonholt	Cathy Folwell (cathy.folwell@icloud.com)	. 01798 872546
		Jenny Sadler (jen@southerncranes.co.uk)	01798 874613
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Amberley Book Club		Jim Endacott	01798 839186
Amberley CE Primary School		Paul Armitage	01798 831612
Amberley Church Hall Bookings		Adrienne Greenwood (ad.greenwood@btinternet.com)	07746 488615
Amberley Good Neighbours Eme	rgency Service	Cyndy Kennett	01798 831010
(AGNES)			
Amberley Oil Syndicate		Jill Couling (amberleyenergysyndicate@gmail.com)	01798 831845
Amberley Parish Council Clerk		Vicky Spiers (clerk@amberley-pc.org.uk)	01903 208943
Amberley Parish Pond & Tree Wa	ırden	Pam Keeble	01798 831050
Amberley Parish Trust		David Vokins	01798 839 086
Amberley Society		Grahame Joseph (grahamejoseph@gmail.com)	01798 831340
Amberley Village Stores and Pos	t Office	Colin Woods	01798 831171
Amberley Welfare Trust (Village S	Surgery)	Grahame Joseph (grahamejoseph@gmail.com)	01798 831340
Bell Ringers (Amberley) Tower C	aptain	Valerie Myers (vmyers69@btinternet.com)	01903 742340
Cricket Club		Keith Dalmon	01798 831887
Home Safety Checks		West Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	03458729719
Member of Parliament		Andrew Griffith (andrew.griffith.mp@parliament.uk)	0207 219 4557
Millennium Green Trust		Judy Agate (judy@greencaterpillar.org)	07525 484749
Neighbourhood Watch		Malcolm Pheasey	01798 839046
Parham Parish Council Clerk		Vicky Spiers (clerk@parham-pc.org.uk)	01903 208943
PCSO (local)	Joel Be	easley (joel.beasley@sussex.police.uk)	
Police		Non-emergency number	101
Rackham Old School Associatio	n	Sue Bulloch	01798 872038
Rackham School Hall Reservatio	ns	Jennifer Hooper	01903 742695
Society of Amberley Garden Enth	usiasts (SAGE)	Sarah Ffoulkes Roberts (sffoulkesroberts@yahoo.co.uk)	01798 874713
South Downs Way Warden		James Tolson (tolsonjab@btinternet.com)	01798 831181
Stoolball Club		Sandra Turner	01243 821255
Village Bus		Philip Greenwood	01798 831803
Village Lunch Team Leader		Sarah Wheeler (sarahwheeler1@live.com)	01798 831194

"...this is a school that really does empower"

Tatler Schools Guide 2022



















DORSET HOUSE SCHOOL

Independent prep school in the heart of the
South Downs National Park
For children from Reception to Year 8 (4—13)
Morning minibus from Storrington and Amberley
After School Club and Optional Flexi-Boarding

To discover more...

Please visit our website (www.dorsethouseschool.com) or contact our Admissions Registrar, Sarah O'Brien (sobrien@dorsethouseschool.com or 01798 831456) to book a tour or to attend one of our Open Mornings which are held in March and October each year.

The Manor - Bury - Pulborough - West Sussex - RH20 1PB







