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# THE *Resident*



*The magazine of Horsell Residents' Association*

*Spring 2019*

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[www.horsellresidents.com](http://www.horsellresidents.com)  
[www.hra.interests.me](http://www.hra.interests.me)

Spring sunshine on the Common. Photo: Niraj Saraf.

# A word from the Editor

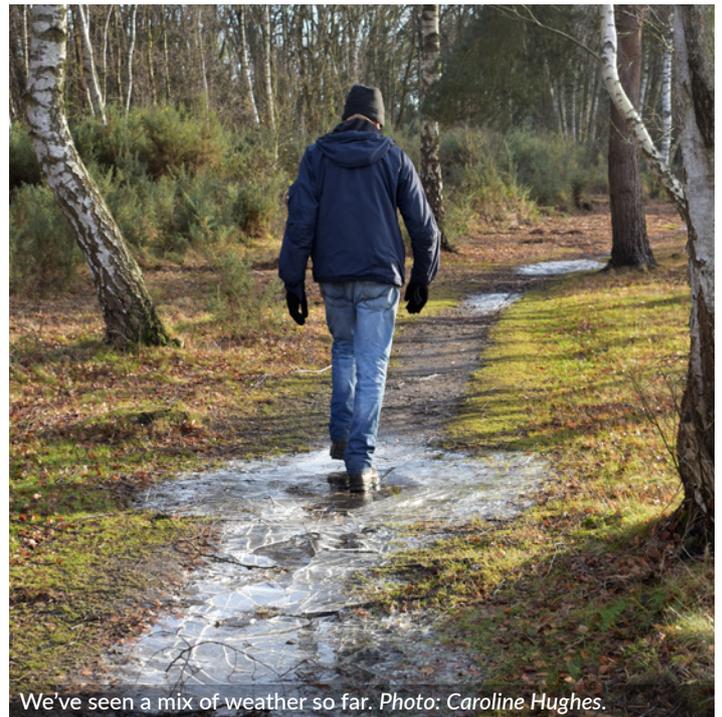
## Greetings...

I hope that you have enjoyed the somewhat climatically challenging start to the year. It was good to see Snow Angels spring into action. Unfortunately, I was in Kent when the texts pinged through, so was not able to be of any use whatsoever, but thank you to Helen and the Snow Angels team and all the volunteers who were able to be angelic.

You don't actually need to be a divine messenger if you want to give a little for our village. Horsell Prepared needs people with all sorts of skills and you can find out more on page 4. We are also still in need of people to deliver this magazine to Woodham Road and Grange Road – just four times a year.

Also a four-times-a-year job is that of managing the advertising for this publication. This is what pays for the magazine to be printed so is vital to its existence. Robin Hoyle has been covering this role for over a year now but we really do need someone else to take it on. Even if you can just commit to a year that would be brilliant. Or maybe you fancy doing this editor's role? We need more people to spread the load so would really like to hear from you if you think that you could help out. The email addresses are printed below – we really hope to hear from someone soon.

*Lucy*



We've seen a mix of weather so far. Photo: Caroline Hughes.

The Resident – Horsell Residents' Association's magazine about and for our village.

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**NEXT ISSUE:** Summer 2019

**Advertising deadline:** noon Sunday 28th April 2019

**Copy deadline:** noon Sunday 5th May 2019

*Articles and photographs about our village are welcomed from our whole community.*

## THE Resident

Published by **Horsell Residents' Association Limited**  
Registered charity (1162487) and limited company (05377490)

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[robin\\_hoyle@hotmail.com](mailto:robin_hoyle@hotmail.com)

### Why not support the association that supports you?

Become a member of HRA and help to support our village projects. See [www.horsellresidents.com](http://www.horsellresidents.com) for full details of our aims and benefits.

Annual household membership is £5 by standing order (£6 pa cash or cheque). Or just pay £50 for lifelong household membership.

See [www.horsellresidents.com/home/JoinUs](http://www.horsellresidents.com/home/JoinUs) or email [info@horsellresidents.com](mailto:info@horsellresidents.com).

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# Horsell happenings

## Woodlanders

**WHEN:** Every second Saturday of the month, 9.30am – 12.30pm

This is a chance to help keep Horsell and its woodlands, footpaths, churchyard and Village Hall attractive to people and wildlife alike.

### Saturday 9th March, St Mary's Churchyard (Wilson Way entrance)

Meet by the shed ready to tidy and trim this haven of peace in Horsell which is particularly lovely in spring with wild daffodils and primroses.

### Saturday 13th April.

Meet in the car park of Horsell Village Hall for some weeding and hedge trimming.

### Saturday 11th May.

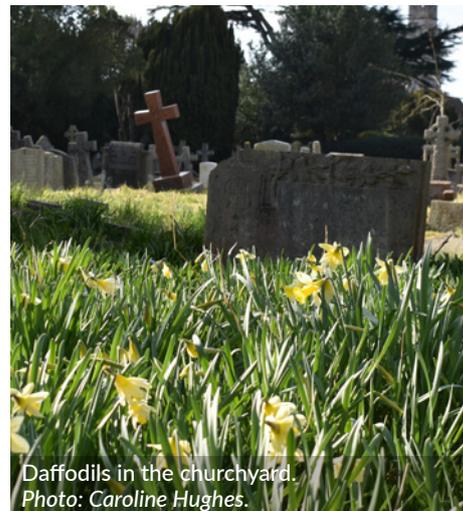
Meet at Pares Woodland Garden (top of the hill behind Scout HQ) for weeding, trimming hedges, spreading wood chippings.

**A special plea for St Mary's Churchyard:** Could you 'adopt' some graves and keep them weeded and free of long grass throughout the year? Many hands really would make such a difference.

Everyone is welcome to all or even just one of these events. Please bring tools if possible: shears, loppers, secateurs, trowel, spade etc – but you are welcome without. Do wear gloves and strong footwear. Refreshments are provided.

Just turn up or feel free to contact Caroline at [c.e.hughes@ntlworld.com](mailto:c.e.hughes@ntlworld.com) for more information.

*Caroline Hughes*



Daffodils in the churchyard.  
Photo: Caroline Hughes.

## Horsell Scouts and Guides May Fayre

**WHEN:** 6th May 2019,  
11.45am – 4.30pm

**WHERE:** Wheatsheaf Recreation Ground

It's May Bank Holiday, so the Horsell Scouts and Guides will be out in force for the welcoming ceremony at 12 o'clock midday. The Mayor of Woking, Cllr. Will Forster, will open proceedings with County and local dignitaries from Scouts and Guides Associations.

This year's event will be flying high with the impressive Ridgeside Falconry Display team who bring their magnificent birds of prey to the main arena for a display which will entertain and educate all ages, with handling of the birds available.

The birds will have a great view of the more energetic on the ever-popular Soft Play, inflatables, face painting, Dog Agility and climbing wall, joined this year by an exciting caving experience. Another new item for this year is the craft tent with local stalls where you will be sure to find that special something.

Why don't you also take it easy by watching the talented Summerscales Dancers or listening to live music in the Music Marquee which will

be filled with local singers and musicians to entertain you.

Another enjoyable part of the day is the sampling of the delights from the cakes in the refreshment tent to the BBQ or pancake stall, washed down with fine ales from the Thurstons Brewery beer tent. We are delighted Thurstons Brewery and Sutton Green Dogs Training Academy can support this key event for yet another year.

As the main annual fundraising event for Horsell Scouts and Guides, the £1 May Fayre Programme will be available from Horsell shops, or via our door to door Guides and Scouts in the local area in the few weeks leading up to the event. The great prizes on offer in the hourly raffle are definitely worth taking part.

This year's fantastically generous May Fayre sponsors are Seymours Estate Agents, Trident Honda, Halstead School and WADP Architects. Without them, the May Fayre would struggle to provide the first-rate family entertainment that it does each year – Thank you!

Contact: Richard Mackie, Horsell Scouts and Guides May Fayre Chairman 01483 715290 / 07801 545847



## Spring Concert

**WHEN:** Saturday 11th May, 7.30pm  
**WHERE:** St Johns' Memorial Hall

Horsell Community Choir and St. Johns Community Choir will join forces to entertain us with songs for springtime. There will be a wonderful mix of folk and modern songs from around the world with Anna Tabbush and Laura Deal conducting the choirs.

Tickets in advance from [Geoff.hughes@hormellsings.org](mailto:Geoff.hughes@hormellsings.org)

## Garden Safari 2019

**WHEN:** 22nd and 23rd June  
**WHERE:** Maybe your garden?

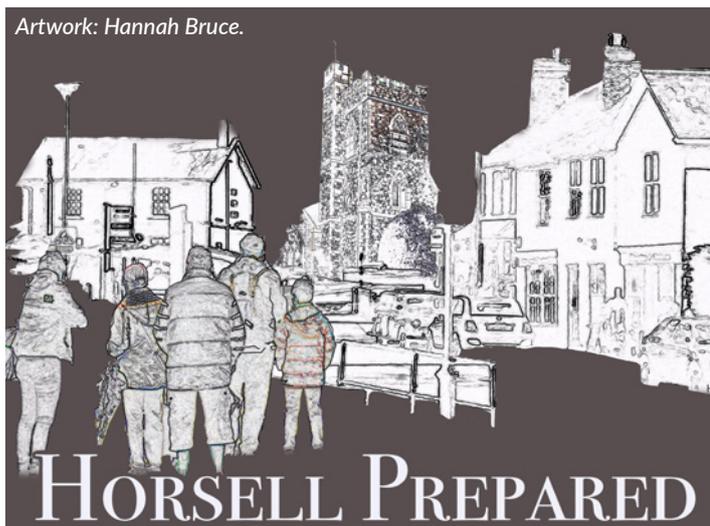
Horsell's 17th Garden Safari is fast approaching so the team are in recruitment mode once more, looking for lots of gardens to open. We had 22 gardens in 2018, helping make the event a success and raising over £4000 for the Village Hall.

Gardens can be large or small and any style. We love to have a wide variety to delight the visitors. You can open for one or both days and offer refreshments/sell plants as wished. Schedules providing entry to every garden will be on sale nearer the time at Seymours, Costcutter, The Horsell Framing Company and other local traders. All profits from these are shared between the Village Hall and a local charity.

If you are up for opening your garden – or just want to find out more about opening – just get in touch with Gail on [bromleysglad@gmail.com](mailto:bromleysglad@gmail.com).

# Horsell Prepared

Artwork: Hannah Bruce.



Horsell Prepared, otherwise known as the Horsell Resilience Team, aims to create a co-ordinated volunteer capability to help the village deal with any future emergency or incident affecting its multiple households. Last year, whilst fortunately there were no major incidents, Horsell Prepared had a presence in the village. We spoke to lots of local

residents at the Village Show. At the Christmas Market you may have come across us in our high-vis jackets chatting to local residents and the Mayor of Woking. Some of our volunteers with first aid skills were able to be on hand too.

Whilst our main objective is to respond to a multi-household incident when called upon, we hope again to provide assistance to village events where possible, and also have a presence at key events we all love such as the Horsell Village Show.

Horsell Prepared is always looking to increase the number of volunteers we have and the skill set available to us. If you live or work in Horsell and you have not got involved in Horsell Prepared yet, and are interested in volunteering, please do feel free to get in touch with us at [horsellprepared@gmail.com](mailto:horsellprepared@gmail.com)

To ensure that we increase our effectiveness, Horsell Prepared also organises training for existing and new volunteers. This ranges from Induction Training (learning about Horsell Prepared's operational and volunteer activities) which we recommend for existing and new volunteers, through to Incident Training. Additional training events can be organised if enough people are interested. If you would like to attend any of the training sessions, or have suggestions for future training topics/sessions, please email [horsellprepared@gmail.com](mailto:horsellprepared@gmail.com)

Siriol Powell-Jones

You can find more information on Horsell Prepared, including dates/details of forthcoming training, at <https://horsellprepared.interests.me>

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# Horsell remembers

Photos: Pete Grieve unless stated otherwise.

A large crowd gathered around the war memorial in Horsell for the Remembrance Day service to mark the centenary of the end of World War One.

The High Street was blocked off to allow the ceremony to go ahead and to be observed impeccably. The names of the fallen were read out by Ciaran Osgersby and Robin Hoyle, chairman of the Residents' Association. The crowd fell silent for the Last Post which was sounded by 15-year-old Woking High School pupil Jude Rainsborough and prayers led by Sarah Hayes, the vicar of St Mary's.

As well as wreaths from local organisations, many of the younger members of the Scouts and Guides units placed kindness rocks on the steps of the memorial painted with traditional messages such as 'We will remember them' and, simply, 'Thank you'.

The commemorations were completed later with a special service in St Mary's which culminated in the lighting of a beacon at the top of the church tower. This was part of a nationwide commemoration by more than 1200 places taking part in Battle's Over, a tribute to the millions who were lost or participated in the Great War at home or on the battlefield.

Those leaving the service could even have seen a light display of poppies on Woking town centre's Twin Towers.

Pete Grieve



Photo: Susan Mackie.



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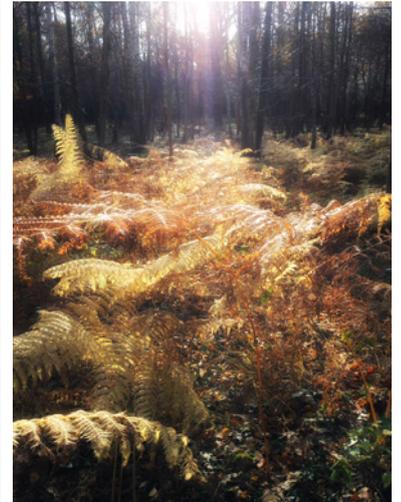
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## The many faces of Broomhall Common

A prancing, winged wooden horse marks the corner of Broomhall Common, an outlying patch of Horsell Common which offers the hundreds of us who walk that way a tree-lined approach to Woking town centre. Often, towards the end of the year, a sideways glance reveals ferns brightened by patches of autumn sunshine. Later in the year, the morning sun rays break behind the trees and reach in picturesque fashion onto the path.

It does not immediately come to mind that such a small area could be a home for much wildlife, but those who venture in and take a quiet moment there – and it is remarkably peaceful despite the path on one side and road on the other – will be rewarded with diverse encounters. As the winter approaches, it is favoured by redwings - travellers from Scandinavia. There are one or two rowan trees amongst the birches which provide berries for them and when berries run out they can be spotted systematically overturning the leaves on the ground looking for insects beneath.

Crows gather in small groups and call to each other from the treetops. Jays and nuthatches are commonly seen. Wrens and long-tailed tits are always entertaining to watch and there are goldcrests, great spotted woodpeckers, tree creepers, song-thrushes and the occasional sparrowhawk too. Tawny owls can be heard when wandering down the path at night-time and I have twice surprised a roe deer this year and seen it bound over the bracken. Stag beetles are present too, appearing rarely on the path edge.

2018 was a good year for fungi in Broomhall. I also spotted butterflies, moths and grey squirrels scurrying along the narrow paths which crisscross the area.

Try an occasional detour off the main path through Broomhall Common on your way into Woking and see what you discover in this woodland wildlife haven right in our village.

Carolyn Watkins



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*"[He] got an A in Latin. He is over the moon!! Thanks so much for all your help! I only wish I had found you earlier!!"*

*"[He] got an A!!!!!!!! Thanks for all your help - never expected a turnaround like that! How can this be the same boy who got low 40s a couple of months ago?"*

# Horsell gardens

## How to futureproof your garden

As the garden growing season gets under way for another year, I look at ways in which we can futureproof our gardens to help protect them from extreme weather events like the flash flooding or drought of which the UK is expected to endure more in the future.



*Berkheya purpurea* 'Silver Spikes' in the Dry Garden at The Savill Garden. Photo: Pamela Barden.

Water-efficient gardening will pay dividends in another drought scenario. Water is lost from the soil both downwards by gravity and upwards by evaporation. Evaporation could be reduced by covering any bare soil with ground covering plants or by applying a thick layer of organic matter, such as garden compost, as a mulch to the soil. I'm always surprised at how few people actually do this. Not only will the mulch prevent moisture loss, but over time it will gradually improve the nutrient content of your soil, open up the structure, suppress weeds

and protect plant roots from temperature extremes. Applying this now is the optimum time, but ensure that the soil is moist first.

Many of us garden on low fertility sandy soil in this area, but by adding a biochar-based product to the soil surface or incorporating into the planting hole, plant performance can be improved through water and nutrient retention. Whilst these products are relatively new to the market, the idea is not; it first stemmed from the man-made 'Terra Preta' soils of the Amazon where charred organic material was added to nutrient-poor soil, increasing the ability to grow crops.

When we do get rain, we need to ensure it is harvested, be that in water butts collected from shed, or greenhouse roofs. If you don't have a water butt yet, now is a good time to install one (or more). Reserves are built up over the winter, but by summer have depleted, at which point you can use 'grey water' if needed. Walking round the garden with a watering can is the best method for ensuring only the plants that most need a drink get it. Train plants by giving them a long deep drink to encourage



The New Zealand Garden at The Savill Garden. Photo: Pamela Barden.



*Pseudopanax lessonii* 'Cyril Watson'. Photo: Pamela Barden.

their deeper roots to seek out groundwater, before letting the soil dry out a bit. Watering little and often only encourages surface rooting, leading to the soil and roots drying out quickly, and so begins a vicious circle.

If you've adopted the 'right plant right place' mentality for choosing your garden plants then this will stand you in good stead as plants from the world's dry regions will generally be seeking out less water anyway. The Mediterranean is the obvious choice, but California with its Ceanothus, Chile, South Africa, South Western Australia and New Zealand all have plants to offer your garden too. Even in gardens without sun a Japanese dry garden could be opted for with gravel and stones.

If you need inspiration for creating a dry garden of your own then take a look at Savill Garden's Dry Garden or New Zealand Garden or RHS Wisley Garden's Mediterranean basin walk which covers plants from a range of dry regions.

*Pamela Barden. Local multi-award winning garden designer*

## How do you plant 2000 tulip bulbs?

Very quickly once you have dug a trench 16 metres long and then have 12 adults and 5 children to put the bulbs in orderly rows and cover with soil.

However, when we first heard that Squires had made us a most generous donation of 2,500 tulip bulbs, it seemed like one enormous headache. How on earth do you plant that number of bulbs?

Once we saw the bulbs, it all seemed much easier, because this is a small variety of tulip so needs less space for planting. It is also ideal for planting outside Pares Woodland Garden because the multi headed "Tarda" tulip is small, yellow and white, doesn't mind a dry spot and naturalises easily.

We still had to dig a trench in very hard dry soil. The solution was given to us whilst we were working in the local churchyard where a group of men work every week under supervision. Their work was running out so they were delighted to be able to help. With spades, muscle and sweat they dug the trench. The next day a group of very willing volunteers planted the tulips and the job was done. Now I am singing to myself, "I believe in miracles!"

You might have done some quick maths and wondered what will happen to the remaining 500 bulbs. These too will be planted for the community, this time in St Mary's churchyard, in the spot which was

the bonfire until recently and where, during the summer months, the flowers spelt out "Peace".

Fingers crossed that in April they will all bloom and that there will be a beautiful ribbon of spring colour which many Horsell residents will enjoy. Look out for them in the churchyard and as you walk along the busy footpath in front of Pares Woodland Garden at the top of the hill.

*Caroline Hughes*



Photo: Caroline Hughes.

# Horsell Christmas

Horsell Christmas fun. Thanks to Bob Holmes from 'Woking News and Mail' for these photos.





After a wet and windy start to the day the weather improved just in time for the start of the Christmas market and Horsell enjoyed a fun, mostly dry, afternoon. Villagers enjoyed exploring the events that were beautifully mapped out by Linda Russell in the winter magazine.

There were around 30 stalls including crafts, gifts, food and drink. The new additional venue in the Horsell Evangelical Church was greatly welcomed and enjoyed. Villagers also appreciated the events at St Mary's and the village school.

There was a variety of excellent music from two music stages and inside the Evangelical Church. A big thank you to everyone who took part.

There are loads of you deserving of thanks, from the volunteers who all arrived on time early in the morning in the wind and rain to set up the market, to the stall holders with their high-quality food, drink and gifts. We mustn't forget our High Street traders who supported the market and stayed open, and the Evangelical Church for opening their doors to the market for the first time.

Huge thanks also to the volunteers who helped pack the market away when everyone else had gone home. We couldn't have done it without you!

Lizzie Judson

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# Horsell life

## Horsell runs

A RUNNING club that was started by one woman's wish to exercise with other people on a route that began and ended close to her front door celebrated its 10th anniversary in December 2018.

Science teacher Abigail Greaves moved to Horsell in 2007 and wanted to go running locally but didn't want to venture out on her own.

After months of organisation and discussions with friends Abigail and six other people set out together from the High Street on a five-mile run on 3 December 2008. It was the start of a regular Wednesday evening session that takes place each week and attracts up to 30 participants.



Photo: Geoff Lay.



Photo: Geoff Lay.

Horsell Runners has no clubhouse and there are no joining fees; it has grown through word of mouth and even spawned two weekend sessions for those who prefer an early morning run.

With the growth in numbers, the club now has a website on which the Wednesday routes are available. Routes generally follow residential streets in winter and include Horsell Common and Basingstoke Canal towpath in summer. The club has a logo featuring a depiction of the Martian Sculpture in Woking town centre and many of the runners wear a specially designed orange club T-shirt.

The club's motto, "Get fit and have some fun", indicates the club's important social aspect. Abigail is clear about this, "I have made some really good friends through the club," she says. "It's very social - you can chat while running and we meet in the Crown pub once a month."

While the sessions are for all abilities, they are not for complete beginners as the Wednesday routes are four to six miles and the Saturday Breakfast Club that meets at 7.30am, run for up to 14 miles.

Some of the participants use the sessions for training for marathons and ultra-marathons, including the London Marathon, the Endure24 near Reading and the gruelling 56-mile Comrades Marathon in KwaZulu/Natal, South Africa.

The Wednesday sessions remain the core of the club and have been cancelled only twice in ten years when it was felt the conditions were too icy to be safe.

"Even then, we had some people turning up prepared to give it a go," Abigail says.

For more information, visit <http://horsellrunners.org> or turn up outside the Beijing restaurant in Horsell on Wednesdays at 7.45pm.

Geoff Lay



Photo: Geoff Lay.



Photo: Abigail Greaves.

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## Horsell bowls

Our Open Day in April 2018 attracted a large number of visitors who wished to try bowling for the first time. Twenty-two of these people got the bug and followed a coaching programme held by our team of coaches. They learned the game, acquired their skills and decided to join the club.

A competition, just for this year's new bowlers, was held on Saturday 8th September. Fourteen new members took part plus two extra players.

John Challiss, John Bishop & Val Challiss organised the event with John Challiss devising the format for a singles competition. The 16 bowlers were divided into four groups of four players. Play started at 10am and each player bowled against the other members of their group in arranged time slots using all six rinks.



Photo: Tricia Nigh



Photo: Tricia Nigh.



Photo: Tricia Nigh.

It was a great day, culminating in Tony Wright's triumph to become our 2018 Beginners' Champion.

Congratulations to all those who took part in the matches.

If you fancy emulating Tony's progress, we will be holding our next Open Day on Saturday 13th April between 9.45am and 12noon. Come and join us at Horsell Bowling Club, Queen Elizabeth Gardens, High Street, Horsell, GU21 4SS

You can take this opportunity to try lawn bowls free of charge with one of our many coaches. Equipment is provided, just wear flat shoes.

Contact details: Tricia on 01483 760170 or email: [tricia.horsell.bowls@gmail.com](mailto:tricia.horsell.bowls@gmail.com)

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## Horsell walks

We have celebrated over a year of Weekly Wednesday Walks and only two have been cancelled due to bad weather.

We're pleased to announce the return of the summer evening walks from May to the end of August. These will be additional weekly evening walks starting at 7.30pm on Thursday evenings.

We always meet by the High Street notice board. On Wednesdays we meet at 9.50am and we return to the High Street by 12 noon (often earlier). For those who would like a drink and chat, we then go to The Red Lion.

You are welcome to come whenever you can. If you can't manage the full walk, we usually have a shorter version too. The walks are three or four miles on average, occasionally longer. They include Horsell Common, the Basingstoke Canal, Hook Heath Golf course and local footpaths.

Join us for exercise, good company and lots of laughter. For more information, please contact: [c.e.hughes@ntlworld.com](mailto:c.e.hughes@ntlworld.com).

Caroline Hughes

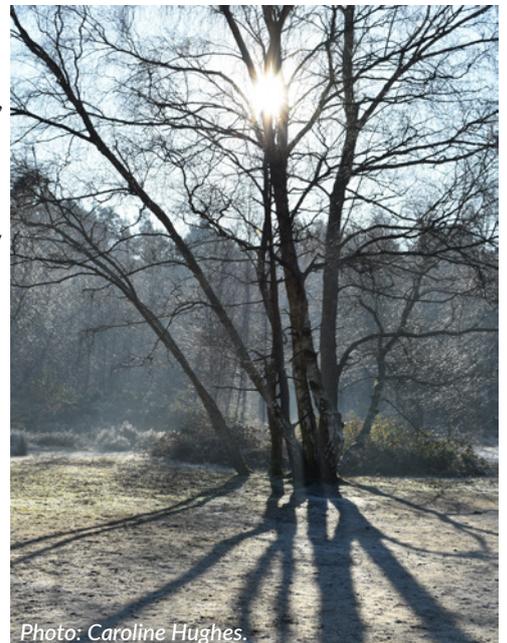


Photo: Caroline Hughes.

# Horsell entertains

## Horsell Amateur Dramatic Society presents 'Burning the Witch'

A gripping new play about social media dangers, social services and the criminal justice system is coming to Woking in early May.

*Burning the Witch* has been written by Christopher Reason, a highly successful radio and television writer – you will have seen his name popping up at the end of many programmes including 'Casualty' and 'EastEnders'. This new play combines previous material with a new, final act.

You may have heard the first two acts as radio plays, originally broadcast on Radio 4 in 2009. However, you do not need to have heard the previous incarnations of the material to enjoy this new production.

The first act draws material from the radio play *This Repulsive Woman*, and the second from *Every Child Matters*, a play that won the 2011 Sony Gold Award.

Colin Orbaum, a regular director of the Horsell Amateur Dramatic Society (HADS), heard both plays and was so struck by their power that he got permission to enter these at local drama festivals. Both plays won a host of awards and Colin approached Reason about a third play which could be combined with the others to make a three-act full-length drama. Reason agreed to write the third part of the story, entitled *The War on Crime*. All three parts now combine to make our play, which is now in rehearsal by HADS.

The first act involves an interview between Debbie Hurst (Claire Racklyeft) and her probation officer Tony (Duncan Partridge) after her trial. It becomes clear that the case has been splashed across tabloid newspapers, with Debbie vilified as "the most repulsive woman in Britain" and judgements made about every aspect of her life.

As the conversation progresses, we learn that not is all as it might seem and the case might not turn out as expected.

The second act takes place six months after the trial and features Debbie's social worker Joanne who has taken the blame for the handling of the case and is seeking to understand what happened. Joanne (Claire Racklyeft) has been suspended and is meeting a colleague David (Jason Orbaum) for a coffee and to try to find out who is saying what about the case.

The third act is also a two-hander with Joanne's boss Patti Dewhurst (Caroline Christie) meeting Chief Superintendent Geoffrey Kinkaid (Matt Kitsell) in a hotel room.

Over the course of this gripping play past events, both professional and personal, come to the fore with a dramatic and shocking climax.

*Burning the Witch* will be performed at the Rhoda McGaw Theatre in Woking town centre on 2nd to 4th May at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £15 (£13 for concessions) and can be bought at [horsellads.com](http://horsellads.com) or 01483 808354

Stuart Flitton



Photo: Tony Charters.



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# Horsell calendar

## Your photo could appear in the 2020 Horsell Calendar!

We're starting work on the 2020 Horsell calendar and need your help! We'd love to see your photos. What we're looking for is anything to do with Horsell. Here are some ideas:

- Our village through the seasons
- Flora or fauna from the common or elsewhere in Horsell or maybe frost on a leaf.
- Shots from Horsell activities – the Village show or Flowerpot Festival for example
- Shots of beautiful houses or buildings in Horsell – or parts of them.
- Photos of artwork depicting Horsell – but if you are not the person who made that art you need to ask permission of the artist.
- Something more abstract – but still with a Horsell link.

There are a few rules: Remember that the photos in the calendar are almost square – so your photo would need to look good in that shape. We've been sent some fabulous photos in the past that just don't look right when converted to that format.

The full size photos need to be taken at high resolution (a file size of at least 1Mb) so they will look good in the calendar.

Please send your photos to [horsellcalendar@horsellresidents.com](mailto:horsellcalendar@horsellresidents.com) by 17 April 2019.

### Which Horsell charities should we support in 2020?

The calendar has raised over £14,000 for local charities since it started. Email the calendar team with ideas about which charities we should support in 2020. Remember, it needs to benefit people in Horsell.

### Would you like to be part of the 2020 calendar team?

We're looking for new members of the calendar team – so if you would like to help do let us know. There's lots to help out with including advertising the calendar.

Please let us know at [horsellcalendar@horsellresidents.com](mailto:horsellcalendar@horsellresidents.com).

Lizzie Judson



HG Wells in the 2019 calendar. Photo: Lizzie Judson.

## Horsell wine club

Dry January over? Why not join The Horsell Wine Club? A social group, the club is an informal, unpretentious wine club which meets monthly for a themed tasting. Niraj hosts and selects the wines to try. Take part by sharing the cost of the wines. No prior knowledge required, just an interest in finding out more. For more information email [horsellwineclub@fastmail.fm](mailto:horsellwineclub@fastmail.fm).

Niraj Saraf



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# History of 'The Resident'

Horsell residents and long-serving HRA volunteers Ann Harington and Peter Hobbs outline the history of your village magazine.

Ann: My oldest copy of what eventually morphed into a glossy quarterly magazine is a single sheet of green paper dated Christmas 1987 and headed Horsell Residents' Association with a logo comprised of the letters HRA set in a circle, (Peter: quite unlike today's logo). It begins with "Festive Greetings to all the Residents of Horsell. This circular is to update members of our most recent activities on their behalf and to introduce others to the association which, speaking for a large group, achieves a greater success rate than individuals when tackling faceless authorities. We can help you by forcefully putting a collective point of view. You can help us merely by joining for the princely fee of 50 pence per year." So, the ideals of HRA have stayed constant even if prices have risen somewhat.

The contents of the sheet include a pleasant ditty which suggests that we should shop locally - in the village, of course. There is discussion over what should become of Brewery Road Car Park. There are problems with the High Street and lorries: "there is only one real solution which all authorities are well aware of, and that is to build the Horsell Bypass which has a route already planned." An item on hotel proposals ends "Given the need for a hotel in Woking it does appear that a quality country park style of hotel on Woodham Road is the best option". Who of us even remembers that "option"?

There is then a considerable gap in my collection - until Spring 1996 which, still on green paper (recycled, we are informed) now has 12 pages and carries advertising. It is termed 'The Resident newsletter'. Tony Miles is listed as the editor. There are reports from various sports groups and the Scouts & Guides. A meeting had been held to discuss the proposed development of Mizens Farm by McLaren's.

Winter 1996 introduces photographs on editorial pages: this is the last issue edited by Tony Miles, who sadly died in 2001. By Spring 1997 Ron Piper has become editor and the green newsletter's format then remains much the same each quarter until winter 2001 when it arrives on white paper, only running to eight pages but announcing that "you can access and read this newsletter at [www.horsellonline.com](http://www.horsellonline.com)" (Peter: an address now dead).

The next issue in my collection is headed 'The Horsell Community News. Magazine of the Horsell Residents' Association. July 2002. Issue 1.'

Peter: Gone is the title of 'The Resident'! Ron is still the editor. The old circled logo remains and green returns but as a second print colour instead, the black and green texts highlighting various items. The redesign comes with a switch of print companies. This partly restores the old title for 'Horsell Community News incorporating 'The Resident'.

Ann: Then we get to 'December 2002. Issue 2' and (as it's Christmas) a switch to black-and-red text. This was Ron's last stint at being editor. It is an eight-pager with a few points of interest: 'Horsell Parish Hall or Horsell Village Hall?' is the question and Horsell Care, launched in September 1999 "continues to grow." Traffic lights at Lockfield Drive junction "will be in place and working before the end of this financial year" is the promise.

Peter: Royer Slater is the next editor for Issue 3 only (dated May 2003), in which the text reverts to black and green.

Ann: There is much concerning local roads: a pedestrian crossing by the War Memorial, bollards on Church Hill and, after five years of a 'temporary' barrier at the Lockfield Drive junction, the lights have been approved which will allow traffic to turn right at Arthurs Bridge and not have to go towards Woking only. There is a 'History of Birch Farm' illustrated with a fascinating photograph taken at the 1924 wedding of Elsie Sophie Waite to Arthur Cecil Silk at the Silk's house Westbury on Church Hill. There is a gardening column by Sarah Squire.

Although the format for Issue 4 (Nov 2003) is the same there is another new editor. Me. There is also some very poor proof reading - my own name is mis-spelt! I have no intention of going through every issue noting the important articles but in this one we read of plans unveiled for County Hall to be built in Brewery Road and the proposed Woking Galleries, now known as The Lightbox.

Peter: This was a time of semi-crisis and unrest calling for action, but not only for Horsell. 'The Resident' too was in danger of being swallowed up by new developments. Its advertising had been outsourced to a small firm that typeset each issue in exchange for keeping all revenue, and they envisaged combining 'The Resident' with 'Goldsworth News' and 'Knaphill News' to create a single 'Community News' publication. A laudible business aim, but when Issue 5 (June 2004) needed an extra two-page insertion titled "10 reasons for" and "10 reasons against" County Hall, it cost HRA valuable funds to print the addition. To safeguard 'The Resident' as our main means of communication and avoid it becoming a permanent drain on funds, HRA Chair Rob Harris immediately decided to bring its production and advertising control back in-house.

Ann: Thus Issue 6 (Dec 2004) has a new look and a new team comprising myself, Peter Hobbs and Janice Worgan, soon joined by Alan Spencer (until 2009) for typesetting.

Peter: The title is now reversed to read 'The Resident incorporating Community News' and the proud slogan "Free! Distributed by volunteers to every Horsell household" makes its first appearance, encouraging local businesses to advertise in its pages.

Ann: The logo also changes to our current version, designed by Peter Hobbs, in which the H, R and A also represent a car, house, garage, trees and a road - pretty nifty. Inside, the format is roughly the same - a mix of news, reports of events, a little local history, Sarah Squire on gardening and a piece by "our Police Community Support Officer" - remember when we had one of those? Still just eight pages, a 'pint pot', but now ready to grow.

After two 12-page issues 6 and 7, the eight-pagers resume until 2008 but meanwhile Issue 9 (Dec 2005) via new printers sports our proper title 'The Resident. Magazine of the Horsell Residents' Association'

Peter: Yes, now a 'magazine', and it has two spot-colours (front part-green and rear part-red). Issue 10 (March 2006) introduces full colour to the front page with a photograph of the village notice board bearing the huge message "County Hall Cancelled - HRA" and a caption "Despite the rain, campaign workers went to work that morning with a smile". Additionally, Issue 11 (June 2006) is on glossy paper so that now it feels like a proper quality publication.

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Top row, from left to right: 1. 1987, issue 1; 2. Winter 1996; 3. Winter 2001  
 Middle row, from left to right: 1. July 2002; 2. November 2003; 3. December 2004  
 Bottom row, from left to right: 1. March 2006; 2. Summer 2014; 3. Autumn 2018

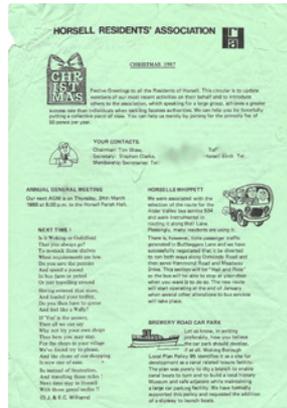
Issue 14 (Sept 2007) sees Simon Ashall take up the editorial reins and includes arguments for/against a planned Church Hill roundabout. It is the last to be numbered (sadly, in my opinion). March 2008 brings full colour to every page at last, and what a visible difference it makes to the advertising! Two issues later we have the 'Autumn 2008' issue instead of the 'September issue', and so it has continued since.

Autumn 2009 sees Sarah Johns take over from Simon. She designs the first Christmas cover (Winter 2009) and achieves the first 16-pager (Summer 2010, something only regular from Spring 2013 onwards). Summer 2011 brings Simon back for one issue as the editor's chair is vacant again, but then Linda Banks takes up the post until in Summer 2014 the editor becomes Geoff Banks (no relation!). The content is boosted further by articles about many Second Thursday Club projects, the blossoming effect of Tony Kramer's Chair initiative of 2012-13. Autumn 2017 welcomes the current (ninth) editor, Lucy English, who starts with an editorial about "resilience". She was writing about Horsell, but that word also describes 'The Resident'.

Ann: This Circular/Newsletter/Magazine has grown and evolved through the input of each member of its "team". Having shrunk to only twice yearly in 2002-2005, it has expanded back to a regular quarterly since 2007 (skipping only Autumn 2010 and Autumn 2011) and is now more than glossy, with colour and variety running to 16 pages of news, reports and features. Its advertising revenue covers the costs of printing but all other aspects remain 'fuelled by volunteers'. Autumn 2018 saw the front cover completely re-vamped by Pam Barden in preparation for the next decade. The only thing missing was an issue number (being modern-era Issue 56).

I could have made this article so much longer but I tried to discipline myself not to study every issue and note every item which caught my eye. Should you however, dear reader, wish to do just that, let me know and I'll lend you my copies.

Ann Harington and Peter Hobbs



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