

The magazine of Horsell Residents' Association

The Resident



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Basingstoke Canal in June. Photo: Geoff Banks.

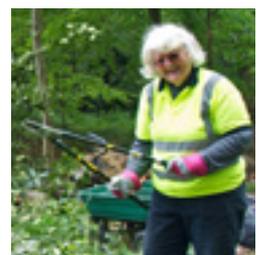
Summer 2015 Inside this issue



Bedser Statues



Village Show 150



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The Resident

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A word from the Editor

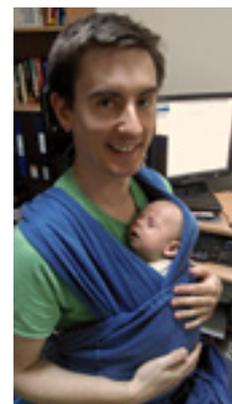
Greetings!

Well, it's certainly been an exciting past few months for me personally. The arrival of our son Thomas has changed our lives completely; far more than I naively expected. It often feels like I have no spare time whatsoever! Fortunately, my wife Fiona has been absolutely fantastic. As well as being a wonderful mother she has assisted me greatly in putting together this edition of *The Resident*.

It's also been a busy few months for Horsell. New shops have opened in the High Street, adding a greengrocers and a fishmongers. They've always looked busy whenever I've been past and it's wonderful to have such a range of shops close by. We have had events a-plenty, with many more to come, but I'll save the discussion of those for other pages.

A project close to my heart is the Horsell Calendar, which Caroline Hughes' team has been working hard on for the past few months. As I write this the final touches are being made so that it should be available for purchase at the Village Show (see page 11). I'm happy to report that the team had a wide range of fantastic images from a number of people to choose from. They had a really had a hard job choosing the final selection.

Geoff



Geoff editing with his
assistant, Thomas.
Photo: Fiona Banks.

A correction. On page 9 of the Spring 2015 edition of *The Resident*, a photograph incorrectly identified the prize-giver from the 2013 Horsell Village Show as "Mayor Anne Murray". This should have read "Mayor Anne Roberts". We would like to apologise to both Cllr. Anne Roberts and Cllr. Anne Murray for this error.

For the blog and twitter feed, contact Debbie

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**NEXT ISSUE: Autumn 2015 – copy deadline for advertisements and editorial
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FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Resident,

In this role I have become increasingly aware of the effort and commitment of those involved in planning our annual community activities. Hopefully the teams that successfully pulled off events such as the Grand Opening, the Scouts and Guides Grand May Fayre and the Garden Safari are taking a deserved breather after all the months of preparation.

Amanda and I decided (or was it me being rash) that we would add our garden to the schedule for the Garden Safari weekend this year. The application process is (reasonably) painless “needs a little colour” was the verdict of the initial inspection. I must admit anticipation of the inspectors visit did raise the heart rate and produce a little line of fine sweat on the forehead but this was nothing to the planting, painting and construction that followed. The “tennis elbow” we both experienced as a result of trellis painting was unexpected! We were a little concerned about whether anyone would make the effort to visit but on the one day we opened, 197 visitors stopped by. Thinking of taking part in the Garden Safari next year (see page 9)? DO IT! The effort you expend will result in a garden you can enjoy beyond the day itself and you will meet lots of people.

Coming festivities

Meanwhile, other teams are in the throes of the final stages of plans for the Summer events. The Village Show committee are pulling together the event for Saturday 25th July (see page 11). The Christmas Fair plans are also advancing with a new format, “German Christmas Market”-style event being planned around the newly refurbished Village Hall/Institute/Pares House complex. This year’s event will also



Many hands make light work. Horsell Jubilation 2012. Photo: Geoff Banks.

bring together the Christmas Tree Festival in St. Mary’s Church and the Village and Junior School Parent Teacher Association Fair in The Village School. Keep a look out for more details about these and other events in this and subsequent issues of *The Resident*.

Sometimes things don’t go the way you expect, with help of a small team, the support of St Andrew’s School and the kind sponsorship of The Cricketers, the inaugural Horsell 5k run in aid of “The Other Horsell” schools in Madagascar, was scheduled for the middle of June. Leaflets and posters were distributed, promotions to running local groups and well supported social media activities were undertaken. Unfortunately we had to cancel as we had not attracted sufficient registrations for the event to be viable. We have returned entry fees and sponsorship funds and we will think again. Thanks to all who pledged their support.

Annual General Meeting

The Horsell Residents’ Association held its AGM at the beginning of June. Most of the formal part of the meeting was spent discussing the application for charitable

status. It has been a surprisingly bumpy process with our application being held up by issues with wording we had taken from the Charity Commissioners themselves. After a formal complaint from Carol our Treasurer, we are back on track with our status due to be confirmed by the time you read this. Having this status means that we will be able to use more of the funds we raise for community projects. In the second half of the meeting our guest speaker and history walker Iain Wakeford provided a multi-media presentation of the industrial and brewing past of Woking and Horsell. This fascinating guided tour reviewed the importance of the canal to local trade and highlighted several schemes that could have resulted in a railway, light or otherwise being routed through Horsell. Iain also provided an historical pub crawl through the variety of drinking establishments that have adorned the village over the years.

I look forward to meeting you at one of the upcoming events. If you are able to lend a hand I am sure the busy organisers would welcome your help.

Robin Hoyle

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or *£6 by cheque / cash

or Life Household: *£50 by cheque /cash

Tick here to request a standing order form or cash collection.

Tick here if you have set up your own standing order online.

Download a form from www.horsellresidents.com/membership

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH



Summer is here, and with the holiday season rapidly approaching, it is time to think about keeping ourselves and our property safe. The Neighbourhood Watch have put together some points to help.

WHEN YOU GO AWAY ON HOLIDAY

- Make sure your premises are secured every time you leave. If you have an alarm, make sure you set it.
- Put lights on a timer switch to make your house look occupied. Make sure you include at least one upstairs light.
- You can also get a 'fake TV' which can be put on a timer and which gives out a flickering light to mimic a TV. This is an excellent deterrent if placed out of view.
- Ask a neighbour to push post through your letterbox and take in any deliveries for you. Cancel milk, newspapers and other deliveries if you can.
- Ask a neighbour to park a car on your drive so that passers-by assume someone is at home.
- If you have a close friend or relative nearby with a key, ask them to draw your curtains in

the evening and back in the morning. Try not to leave curtains drawn during the day.

- If you have a lawn, mow it before you go away.
- Don't display your home address on the outside of your luggage.
- Don't publish your absence on the internet. Status updates, comments and photos on social media can all give away the fact that you are out of your home for an extended period.

YOUR GARDEN

- Secure your garden with lockable gates and walls or substantial fencing. Thorny plants around the perimeter and trellis on top of fences make it harder for an intruder to access your garden.
- Keep your ladder and garden tools locked away - they can be used by burglars to access your home.
- Remember to lock garage and shed windows and doors. You can get electronic shed alarms or padlock alarms to deter thieves.
- Make sure any valuable items stored in sheds are well-secured. Use a ground/wall anchor where possible.

- Store bins securely to prevent them from being used to access upstairs windows or flat roofs.
- Outside security lighting can act as a deterrent for burglars.
- Walking on gravel is noisy and this can help to deter intruders.

More security advice can be in the "Stay Safe" publication which can be found on the Woking Association of Neighbourhood Watches (WAN) web site at

<http://www.windowonwoking.org.uk/sites/wan/security/NhWAdvice.pdf>

In the Winter 2014 edition of *The Resident*, we featured Mark Saunders, who has been our Surrey Police Crime Reduction Advisor for the past four and a half years. Mark has decided to take a career break from the Police. He has served us excellently with his crime incident and prevention advice and has been a good friend and supporter of Neighbourhood Watch. We wish him well.

Alan Taylor,

NhW Area Co-ordinator for Horsell

Tel: 01483 766816

Email: horsell_area_coordinator@wanw.org.uk

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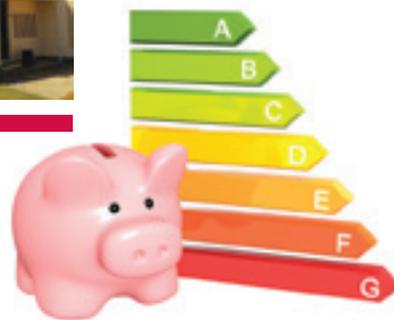


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* Figures: Energy Saving Trust (2014) based on installing external wall insulation in a detached property.



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PLANNING

Planning Issues Road Safety

A number of residents have been in touch with the HRA over the past few months. Here is a summary of the issues that have been under discussion:

- The long-running issue of car-parking in Horsell village. One suggestion is to improve the white-lining on the north side to accommodate more cars safely, similar to how it is on the south side. I think this is an excellent step forward though far from a full solution. My own idea is more radical: realign the road so that most of the parking is on one side and can be better organised. Have you any ideas, whether small or radical?
- The proposed redevelopment of the White Knight laundry into retirement homes. After looking at the plans in detail and talking to a few neighbours, I feel positive about the proposals.
- There is an e-petition requesting a crossing over Littlewick Road. We support this, and so I have signed it.
- Requests for a safer way for cyclists to cross Shores Road and gain access to the Horsell Common car park. We have helped to publicise this on the HRA website's Campaign page. Surrey County Council are not optimistic that this will be justifiable, so we will need to show a lot more public support than we have been able to so far.
- The resurfacing of Horsell Rise, which is in a very poor state. Our Councillors are going to press for action on this at an early opportunity.
- "Now that the Chobham Road crossing is finally being installed, shouldn't there be a warning sign for approaching motorists?" suggests activist Joyce Bianconi. Certainly there should, for everyone's safety!
- The Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD), in conjunction with the Core Strategy planning document, sets out the Council's strategy to facilitate the delivery of the Borough's housing needs from now until 2040. Controversially, this involves the potential release of a small amount of Green Belt land in parts of Woking. The DPD has been put out to consultation (16th June for 6 weeks).

Tony Kremer

A few months ago Horsell Residents' Association committee member Richard Mackie witnessed a resident attempting to cross to the St Mary's side of Church Hill while pushing a buggy. This is rather a high-risk activity as the position of the existing pedestrian crossing affords a restricted view towards Church Hill, with minimal notice of fast moving traffic. The view to the north into High Street is little better.

We pulled together a small group to discuss the situation including representatives from the HRA, Horsell Infant and Junior schools' joint Parent Teacher Association and St Mary's Church. We discussed options and held a meeting with Woking Borough Councillor Beryl Hunwicks and Surrey County Councillor Colin Kemp to review options. All agreed that we needed advice from an expert and so the team recently met with the Surrey County Council Highways Engineer for a review of the options.

The review went well with options being proposed and considered, these include changes to:

- Crossing position
- Pavement parking restrictions
- Road signs
- Road Markings
- Profiles of junctions

While the Highways Engineer was with us we also reviewed the traffic sign positions at the bottom of Church Hill near the roundabout on Brewery Road and where the 40mph Horsell Birch joins the High Street at the turning to The Cricketers. We are looking at options for more noticeable signs to set speed expectations and hopefully reduce speed voluntarily at these and other entry points into the village.

We are also looking to replace the pictorial Horsell Village road signs. This activity is prompted by two factors: our existing signs are not ageing well and the upcoming HG Wells anniversaries offer an opportunity to acknowledge the link with Horsell Common and War of The Worlds.

We will be presenting options and ideas to local residents in the area of Church Hill and also plan to have details in the HRA gazebo at Horsell Village Show in Horsell Junior School on Saturday 25th July. Do drop by to have a look and give us your views.

Robin Hoyle



The view towards Church Hill from the pedestrian crossing. The combination of bend, foliage and downhill gradient is not ideal. Photo: Geoff Banks.

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The Mound

The objection to the relocation of the footpath that runs between the Village Hall and Bowling Club has been upheld. As such the focus is now on completing the landscaping with the current layout. Invitations to tender have gone out to various contractors and the process is ongoing. Once a contractor has been appointed, work will begin on completing the path with lighting to the left of the site (North), the second tennis court and the path along the top of the site between Hill Close and Pares Close. The chain link fencing has been removed where it is safe to do so to allow greater access to families while work is pending. The mound will be dispersed as top soil once the work is near completion.

Cllr. Beryl Hunwicks

Updates

Defibrillator

Our second training session took place in April and we have now arranged for a third, perhaps final, session on 17th July. Thanks again to Aideen and Mike for providing their tremendous expertise free of charge. Please contact me if you would like to be trained.

We have asked the Council to provide sign-posting in the village.

We are now considering the purchase and location of a second defibrillator if we can raise another £500 or so. Any donations would be gratefully received.

HG Wells

The momentum has really picked up in recent months on the plans for big celebrations in 2016. The website is up and running (http://www.celebratewoking.info/about/HG_Wells2016) and will be added to as dates are firmed up. The sculptor for the new statue of Wells by the underpass has been selected. This should be

unique as we suspect there isn't another Wells statue anywhere else. Schools are being asked which of the six projects they would like their children to be involved in. The art project is to be launched in July and the drama/music/talks programme is being worked on by the Ambassadors.

Please do get in touch with me if you would like to contribute with ideas and skills.

Tony Kremer

Email: a.kremer@ntlworld.com

History On The HRA Website

Earlier this year I was asked by the Horsell Residents' Association to transfer the contents of my Horsell website to the HRA's site. I readily agreed and, with the help of Geoff Hughes, created the new section that can be found by selecting the "History" option under "Village". Along with various census returns, you will find information about houses in Horsell Birch, Esgairs, 71/3 High Street - built in part of the original garden of that house and not what it seems, Horsell Windmill and the Woodham Tapestry.

Besides historical information about our village, there are a number of useful links for local historians including English Heritage, the Surrey History Centre, The Lightbox and Woking Palace. There is also a link to the Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey) who study old houses, cottages and other domestic and farm buildings, mainly in Surrey, by invitation.

As a local historian I am anxious to ensure facts are only quoted when there is written evidence of their authenticity and I am always happy to reply to queries provided, of course, I know the answer.

Phillip Arnold

Email: phillip.arnold@ntlworld.com

WHAT'S ON

Saturday 25th July

Horsell Village Show 1:30pm to 5pm.
Barn Dance 7pm-9pm. *See Page 11.*

25th July-1st November

Warhol and the World of Pop Art, exhibition at The Lightbox. A celebration of this rich, colourful and influential period.

Saturday 15th August

2020VISION. Interactive presentation by top nature photographer Peter Cairns at WWF's Living Planet Centre. Tickets £10, concessions £7. Call 01483 426333 to book. 2:30pm

Saturday 15th August

Vintage Fair at The Lightbox
10:30am to 5 pm.

25th-28th August

Holiday Bible Club at Horsell Evangelical Church. Free activities for 4-12 year olds. Contact pastor@horsellec.org.uk

Thursday 10th September

Second Thursday Club meeting at Birch House, Horsell Birch. Your chance to get involved with village activities. 8pm.

Saturday 12th September

Pares Woodlanders working party 9:30am. *See page 7.*

Saturday 12th September

Object Handling Sessions at The Lightbox. Get hands-on with artefacts from The Lightbox's History Collection.
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SECOND THURSDAY CLUB

Pares Woodlanders

If it's the second Saturday of the month, then it must be time for working on Pares Woodland Garden! However, the Woodland is quietly re-establishing itself and we have recently been using our energies elsewhere.

In March, along with local residents, we planted spring flowers down Tracious Lane. The footpath has dried out and many people have enjoyed discovering this gently winding route. We have been down pushing a friend in a wheelchair and the new Banks baby was taken on a somewhat bumpy pushchair ride to The Cricketers (start 'em early!) thus avoiding the difficult double crossing of The High Street.

The second Saturday of April saw us in the beautiful churchyard of St. Mary's Church, having fun building a giant bonfire and cutting back trees and shrubs, whilst delighting in the profusion of primroses and daffodils.

In May the wandering Woodlanders group of Second Thursday Club were joined by nearby residents and other Horsell volunteers to tackle the holly bushes and undergrowth adjacent to Footpath 19, which runs from Horsell Park to Brewery Road, emerging at the pedestrian crossing by Pegasus. For years there have been reports of antisocial behaviour facilitated by the cover provided by this overgrown undergrowth.

Armed with tools loaned by Horsell Common Preservation Society (HCPS) this energetic and cheerful team made short work of the task. The undergrowth also provided great cover for litter and the clearance uncovered several sacks of recycling. Following this working party, contractors for HCPS will use machinery to remove the lower level undergrowth throughout Broomhall Common when the timing is right.

So how is Pares Woodland getting on? Very well, except for the destruction of the bird boxes just as the blue tits were moving in. How sad. If you have a spare bird box which you would like to give us, please get in touch and we will put them much higher up the trees this time! The bluebells and red campion are coming into flower just as the daffodils die. The whip saplings we planted a year ago have grown really well and are about to flower. It is wonderful that the local schools and Brownies now visit the Woodland. 1st Horsell Brownies have planted some beautiful wild primroses,

while St. Andrews and the Village School are doing environmental and nature studies there.

There will be work to do in September. If you would like to come along and enjoy a really good morning, please check for details on: www.horsellstc.interests.me

Caroline Hughes
Email: c.e.hughes@ntlworld.com



Nigel and Jenny Davis tending to the churchyard. Photo: Caroline Hughes.



Jane Lawrence by Footpath 19. Photo: Robin Hoyle.



The Pares Woodlanders in May. Photo: Robin Hoyle.

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EVENTS

Grand opening

On Saturday 18th April, over 300 people gathered to celebrate the Grand Opening of the Institute, the Scout & Guide Headquarters and the Village Hall. The Mayor, Councillor Tony Branagan, and the Mayoress were met by the Vicar, Rev. Sarah Hayes, Horsell Group Scout Leader, Tony Bowman, and Chairman of the Hall Trustees, Roger Chamberlain. Woking MP Jonathan Lord, the local councillors, and representatives from Guiding & Scouting were also in attendance.

After a peal of bells from St. Mary's Church at 2pm, the Mayor opened the refurbished Institute. Originally the gardener's cottage, around 1910 a trust was established between Canon Pares, reverend at St. Mary's, and his brother, the Bishop of Winchester, to change its use. This trust still exists today and is responsible for managing the building. It was the first project to be completed on the site in September 2013 and has undergone a complete renovation, including replacing the roof, rewiring, a new kitchen and a full redecoration.

The Mayor then cut the ribbon at the Scout & Guide headquarters. There he unveiled a plaque naming it Pares House in honour of Canon Pares, who donated the land of the original hut to Scouting in the early 20th Century. The Scouts & Guides all looked smart in their uniforms and welcomed everyone to their new building. The units had put on various activities, including camp-fire singing by the Rainbows, badge-making and sycamore helicopters with the Beavers, maypole dancing by the Brownies, a first aid demonstration and rope making from the Cubs, cooking pancakes on tin cans with candles by the Guides, pioneering by the Scouts and finally a mini orienteering course set up by the Explorers. All these activities attracted lots of children (both young and young at heart!) to have a go. A delicious, massive cake, decorated with a beautiful picture of the new building, was cut and shared around. There was also a slide-show of the project from the very beginning, put together by Nigel Longley.

Finally, everyone moved to the opening of the Village Hall and the unveiling of a plaque on the new extension. This adds a new meeting room (that can be divided in two), new toilet facilities and a new kitchen. The Trustees also arranged



The re-opening of the Village Hall. Photo: Lou Patoto.

for a full redecoration of the building, repairs to the roof and other repairs with money raised over the years. In the hall, the two WI groups served refreshments and Summerscales Performing Arts performed a wide range of dance routines for the assembled crowds. A display in the Hall featured information on the Bedser Twins, who gave their name to the Bedser Boys Club, which operated out of the Hall in the 1950s and 60s. Alongside this were some of the items which will be placed in a Time Capsule, that will be kept under the stage until 2065.

In welcoming and thanking the Mayor, Roger Chamberlain went on to say that "The Trustees of the Hall and the Institute and the Scouts thanked and fully appreciated the input of Councillors Beryl Hunwicks, Colin Kemp, and also Tony Branagan over the previous four years, together with the Officers of the Council for providing the new facilities for the three buildings, which in turn had enhanced the Conservation Area".

Roger Chamberlain, Nigel Longley, Fiona Banks



Pares House, the new Scout & Guide HQ. Photo: Lou Patoto.



The re-opening of the Institute. Photo: Lou Patoto.

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Garden Safari

This year's Garden Safari was a truly wonderful weekend. Luckily the heavy rain held off and it wasn't too hot to wander through the streets of Horsell. The generosity, goodwill, friendly atmosphere and sense of community really showed over the two days. The event raised an amazing total of £4,721 towards more kitchen equipment and a screen and projector for Horsell Village Hall.

The organisers are always looking for new gardens to add to the scheme, this year we had nine new gardens to look at. Next year's event will be on 18th and 19th June 2016. Should you be interested in opening your garden in 2016 then please contact me.

Penny Kramer

Tel: 01483 761455

Email: colinandpenny@sky.com

Photos:
Penny Kramer



Grand May Fayre

This year's May Fayre saw over 3000 people flock to the Wheatsheaf recreation ground on the May Bank Holiday. This huge attendance meant that all activities were exceptionally busy for the whole afternoon, while the food stalls and Real Ale tent, stocking local Thurstons beer, sold out by the end of the event. There was a tremendous atmosphere as Horsell Scouts and Guides, their families and friends all enjoyed the early summer sun.

The arena entertainment was brilliant as always. Clown Bluey and his team of 'skilled' fire fighters with their purpose built fire engine entertained children of all ages with two very funny arena shows, and generated smiles from the crowd around the wider event. Summerscales Performers were up to their usual high quality best with their spectacular dance routines to set everyone's feet tapping. Uniformed organisations shared the main stage with Morris Dancing from our Brownies and of course the frantic competitions of the Beavers, Cubs, Guides and Scouts as they battled for the May Fayre trophies. Many congratulations to Adventurers Beavers, Baden Powell Cub Pack and 4th Horsell Guides who were all victorious this year.

Outside of the arena, the top of the range Climbing Tower staffed by professional climbers was a crowd pleaser with both adults and young people showing their skills as they made it to the top, encouraged by supporters on the ground. The book, flower and craft stalls were constantly busy and many family pets are now a little bit more well behaved thanks to the dog agility course courtesy of the Sutton Green Dog Training Academy, who provide dog obedience courses locally.

The soundtrack for the day was given by the amazing music organised by the acclaimed music duo, Stillwell and Lacey. As well as their fantastic performances, they expertly blended local singers, school bands, acoustic guitarists and more, to entertain the crowds whilst enjoying the refreshments available.

Horsell Scouts and Guides would not be able to arrange the May Fayre without the very generous support from our 2015 sponsors, whom we wish to thank publicly – Global Travel Management Ltd, Seymours Estate Agents in Horsell, Trident Honda Garage, Ottershaw and WADP Ltd.

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EVENTS

Bedser Bridge statues unveiled

In glorious cricketing weather on Monday 8th June, Sir John Major unveiled statues to cricketing twins Eric & Sir Alec Bedser at either end of the Bedser Bridge in Woking. The



The batsman's Eric Bedser...
Photo: Geoff Banks.

brothers grew up in Horsell and both played first-class cricket for Surrey, while Sir Alec also represented England 51 times during the 1950s.

The life-size bronze statues, by sculptor Allan Sly, depict Alec bowling from the town side to his brother Eric, on the other side of the canal. It would appear that Eric smashed the bronze cricket ball for six; thanks to former England player and coach Micky Stewart, it can be seen lodged on the wall of the Civic Offices. Nice one, Eric!

Sir John spoke movingly of his friendship with the twins. He said: "Through our shared love of cricket I was lucky enough to know the twins, and to appreciate their passion for the game, as well as for golf, gardening, and their family home in Woking. To think that these sporting greats nurtured their enthusiasm and knowledge of cricket just a stone's throw from where we are today should make this town and its residents feel very proud indeed". He told of a time when Alec arrived at No. 10 with a bag of Brussels sprouts. He was stopped by security who wanted to check the bag in case he was considering blowing up the Prime Minister. "If I'd wanted to blow you up I'd have brought radishes, not sprouts!" he declared.

Cllr. John Kingsbury, Leader of Woking Borough Council, added: "It is with delight and honour, we welcome cricketing enthusiast, The Rt Hon Sir John Major, to unveil these bronze statues of Horsell's finest sporting sons, Sir Alec and Eric Bedser. Throughout and beyond their cricketing careers they never forgot their roots and helped to put Woking on the map. I would also like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Keith Smith who sadly passed away earlier this year. Without his enthusiasm, drive and determination

these statues would not have been possible."

To ensure their legacy lives on, Surrey County Cricket Club and the Surrey Cricket Board established the Bedser Foundation, raising the profile of cricket through the development of the game within Woking's 33 schools and to identify Surrey's next generation of cricketing stars.

Ann Harington



...and the bowler's Sir Alec Bedser CBE.
Photo: Geoff Banks.

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Village Show 150 Preview

We hope that you find the article about the history of the Village Show (see page 14) as interesting as we did. You will see how very different the show was in years gone by; but no doubt always enjoyable and the highlight of village life for many local residents. You will also see that recently-uncovered evidence suggests that the show is even older than we thought. Even more of a reason to celebrate!

We want to make this year's celebration of 150 years of shows in Horsell an occasion to remember, with themes in line with that anniversary. The class for the "Great Horsell Bake-Off" looks for the best birthday cake, the floral art is themed for celebration and will feature a class to coincide with the 150 years since Lewis Carroll's *Alice Adventures in Wonderland* was published in 1865. Jumbo the elephant arrived in London Zoo in the same year and we hope that the children will enjoy colouring in a picture of him which will be found in the schedule and on the website.

The deadline for entries for the show is 19th July and we hope that everyone will have a go at entering at least one of the many classes on offer. You can pick up a schedule in the local shops or online at www.horsellvillageshow.co.uk

In addition there will be plenty of entertainment on offer. There will be craft stalls, an art show, games and a raffle. There will be a McLaren F1 car on display. Entertainment will be provided by the Chobham Morris Men, a juggler, a ukele band, Punch and Judy and there will be a bouncy castle. Refreshments will be available; St. Mary's Church will kindly be providing the teas, while Pimm's and burgers will be on sale.

The show will be held at Horsell C of E Junior School in Meadway Drive on Saturday 25th July, starting at 1:30pm with the prize-giving at 5:00pm. The prizes will be presented by the MP for Woking, Jonathan Lord. Entry to the show is only £2 for adults and free for children. It would be lovely if the children could dress up in keeping with years gone by – those doing so will get a little prize!

Barn dance

As it is an extra special celebration, the prize-giving at the end of the show will not mark the end of the entertainment. Instead, the large marquee will be converted into a dance-floor so that we can round off the day in style with a traditional barn dance from 7:00pm. Tickets are on-sale at Needle & Thread, Seymours and Prince & Sons. They are priced at £10 for adults and £5 for children. Lets strip the willow and party like its 1865!"

If you are able to help with the show setting-up/taking down or with the games, selling raffle tickets or would like to run a craft stall please call me.

Marion Piper

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Horsell Calendar

The Horsell Calendar 2016 will be on sale at the Horsell Village Show at a special promotional price of £6. Look out for the HRA stall! Who would be without a usefully sized calendar which also makes a great gift?

The calendar features beautiful photos of Horsell and includes useful dates of Horsell's weekly activities and annual events, plus a handy directory of local services and businesses. All profits will go directly to three local charities: St. Mary's church, Woking & Sam Beare Hospices and the Village Hall. Thank you to all the photographers who have submitted their photographs, to everyone who has helped edit the calendar, to the businesses who have sponsored it and to Seymours for both their generous sponsorship and help with the printing. It has been a real local team effort!

Caroline Hughes

Email: c.e.hughes@ntlworld.com



Look out for the Horsell Calendar 2016. Cover image by Stephen Foreman.



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ACTIVITIES

Horsell choir's musical treat

On Saturday 25th April, an enthusiastic audience packed Horsell's parish church for Music in Springtime hosted by Horsell Community Choir and featuring one of Britain's most talented vocal groups, Apollo5.

The concert is now an annual event at St. Mary's Church. The local a cappella choir, now 80-strong, and Apollo5's lively repertoire drew an audience of almost 200. Proceeds from the event produced a donation of £624 for Guide Dogs for the Blind.

Apollo5 bass singer, Greg Link, described the evening as "a real pleasure". "The Horsell audience has given us a wonderfully warm welcome and we've enjoyed singing here." The evening was also a landmark for Apollo5, who announced that it would be the last time baritone Harry Bennett was singing with them. In honour of the occasion they performed one of his favourite songs, *Java Jive*.

The Horsell choir received enthusiastic praise from the audience and Apollo5 who described their singing as "impressive" in a programme that ranged from old folk songs and a Hawaiian Earth Blessing to contemporary songs such as *Royals* and *Falling Slowly*, with harmonies arranged by music director Anna Tabbush.

Geoff Hughes

Open day success

This year we held our public Open Day on Saturday 18th April. The sun shone, the weather was warm and our five coaches were almost overwhelmed by the large number people who came to see if they would like to try lawn bowls.

We hold this Open Day every year in the hope of attracting new people to the sport and, thanks to widespread television coverage, it is no longer considered to be "Old Men's Marbles". We welcome members of all ages and abilities to our

friendly club and even if you have missed this day it isn't too late to have a go.

Friday Evening is Club Night when members gather at the Pavilion from 6p.m. onwards to play in friendly games or enjoy a drink and chat with friends. We are always pleased to welcome visitors who would like a bowling "taster session" with one of our coaches. We will supply all equipment, just wear flat shoes and turn up. For further information, please get in touch.

Tricia Nigh

Tel: 01483 760170

Email: tricia.horsell.bowls@gmail.com



Horsell Bowling Club coaches, members and beginners in May. Photo: Tricia Nigh.

Young Enterprise at Woking High School

Could you help to ignite the spirit of enterprise in the next generation?

Young Enterprise is Britain's leading enterprise and financial education charity for young people that empowers them to learn about business in a practical way. Students take on the role of a small business and share in the real-life experiences of a volunteer from a local company. Not only is this an exciting challenge for all involved, the YE programme provides bankable experience for young adults; graduates from the scheme gain a significant advantage when applying for jobs, giving them an essential head start in our increasingly competitive job market.

To continue with our fantastic work, Young Enterprise needs more volunteer business mentors and advisors – and that's where you come in. We're hoping that the local residents of Horsell will be interested in volunteering as advisors or business mentors for our young people taking part in the scheme at Woking High School. Could you help to ignite the spirit of enterprise in the next generation?

Each YE company at the school is assigned a volunteer advisor, who guides the fledging company through the academic year and attends company meetings; these are usually held after school during term time. Business advisors are there in a supporting role only – it's the students who are responsible for running their own company! You don't need any teaching experience, just a passion for business and a desire to share that with young people.

If you have experience in business and could possibly spare an hour per week during term time, the Young Enterprise West Surrey Board would be delighted from you. For further information, please contact either Miss Julie Fear at Woking High School or me.

Robin Smith

YE Business Advisor & West Surrey Board Member.

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Horsell Village Show Presents

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See Page 11 for details

HELPING THE COMMUNITY

Can you help?

Horsell Village Hall

The Trustees need an Honorary Secretary to attend evening meetings about once a month and take the Minutes. The Hall has been recently redeveloped and you will be part of the next stage of its ongoing service to our community. Please contact us via our website: <http://www.horsellvillagehall.org.uk/>

Diane Fagence

Horsell Care

We are URGENTLY looking for a few more volunteers. We need assistance manning the telephone helpline for a few hours each month and more drivers to take our clients to medical appointments or on shopping trips. Please make this urgent appeal known among as many of your friends and neighbours as possible. Horsell Care has helped hundreds of residents and carried out nearly 14,000 jobs since it was founded, but without volunteers we will struggle to provide the necessary level of help.

If you think you might be able to give a few hours a month of your time, please call our helpline, 01483 730740, and leave a message. Alternatively, call me for further information.

Chris Dines

Tel: 01483 772231

War on waste!

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Computer help

Horsell Evangelical Church are organising an over 60s Computer Training Course, ideal for complete computer novices that want to learn how to use their computer.

The course will run weekly from Monday 5th October. There are limited places available so please register as soon as possible.

Rev Andrew Bents

Email pastor@horsellec.org.uk

Tel: 01483 822259

Lions at 40

Horsell Village Hall

At the Annual Charter Lunch of Woking Lions Club at the end of April, the Club was honoured to have Woking's Mayor Cllr. Tony Branagan, 1st Vice District Governor Bob Prebble and their wives present. The Lunch celebrated 40 years since the Club was initially formed in 1975.

During his speech, Woking Lions President Roger Chamberlain had the pleasure of announcing three Milestone Chevron Awards to long-serving members. Peter Wilson was awarded a 35-year Chevron, and Adrian Smith a 20-year Chevron. Unfortunately David Partridge was unable to be present, and his 40-year Monarch Chevron will be presented to him shortly.

Roger then presented the Mayor with a cheque for £400 towards his three chosen charities: Combat Stress, Crossroads Care Surrey and The Young Carers at Woking High School.

Roger N Chamberlain

Roger Chamberlain, Bob Prebble & Peter Wilson.

Photo: Woking Lions.



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HISTORY

Horsell Village Show 150

The Horsell Village Show is celebrating 150 years this summer. The first known record was in the *Surrey Advertiser*, which reported on 22nd July 1865 that the show had been held in unfavourable weather with the entries of a lower standard than before. George Steer won the main prize of 10s for a group of four vegetables and Cobbett's nursery exhibited, as they did in most years, a display of their roses.

A report of the 1875 show refers to the 18th annual exhibition, suggesting the first event must actually have been in 1858 or earlier. The first record of what is described as the Horsell Cottagers' Floricultural Show is in 1860 when it was held in the School Room, with about 30 cottagers receiving prizes. The vicar, Alfred Mangles, was one of the chief organisers of the show. When he died in 1875 his successor let it lapse, before being paid to leave the parish. In 1878 Mr Benson, vicar for that year, and Mr Brettell, a lawyer, property developer and church official, decided to revive the show. There were 65 competitors, including W. Daborn, who won nine prizes, and 79-year-old Mrs Sleet who took six prizes for her fruit despite confessing

to finding digging a little tiring. Each show took place on a weekday in and around the school; teas were served, bands played during the afternoon, Cobbett's and other nurseries displayed their roses and other flowers outside the competitive classes, which the Daborn family continued to win.

A programme for 1895 survives, when the show was held at Horsell Grange on Kettlewell Hill, the home of the secretary and treasurer Clementina Mostyn. 6d was charged for entry to the show and 3d to enter an item in each class; there were 69 classes and the value of the first prize remained at 10s. Some were open to amateurs and resident cottagers, some for cottagers only, and no-one could take more than five first prizes. There were competitions for boiled potatoes, a pair of dead ducks and chickens (most being disqualified as they had not been plucked), a model of a garden, and a patched or darned garment. Children were given a day's holiday and events were run for them such as three-legged races, sack races and 'Pick-a-backs' (also known as piggybacks).

Until the outbreak of World War I, the show

continued to grow under the generous presidency of the vicar Canon Pares, at various venues including the Vicarage field and Church



Peter Sibbick and Betty Harris, fancy dress winners, 1934. Photo: Diana Farndale.

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Hill House (now St Andrew's School), with entertainment in the Parish Hall at the end of the day. The headline in the *Woking News and Mail* for the 1915 show was 'Exhibits that the war did not kill', as the show defiantly went on encouraging people to produce food. Despite an attempt to run monthly food competitions, the full show does appear to have become a casualty of the war, not being revived until 1921. This was the 56th show, and it was suggested that it should be under the auspices of the Allotment Association, as it had done so much to encourage food production. The show came after two months of drought so, while the weather was fine, the quality and quantity of exhibits was not. Woking Electric Supply Co (WESCO) had a display titled with the awful pun 'Currents and Bulbs', showing electric sewing machines and hair-dryers rather than berries and flowers.

Thereafter the usual classes continued and new ideas were suggested, including cookery for girls and woodwork for boys, sports for adults, baking to given recipes and collections of wild grasses and flowers. The Women's Institute had a stall and the show became a Saturday event. In 1930 there were plans for regular lectures on horticultural matters, co-operative purchases of gardening materials, exchanges of surplus stock and visits to gardens. Perhaps this proved over-ambitious as, although shows continued for a few more years, there was a financial crisis in 1933. Funds and interest were low, and the Horticultural Society (as it had become) decided there could not be a show. Canon Pares held a successful garden party in August to raise money to start the show again in 1934. This proved to be the last show for many years, but there were 130 classes with 500 entrants, some classes being restricted to those who did not have gardeners. The WI performed folk dances,

the school children danced round the maypole, WESCO gave cookery demonstrations and the band of the 5th Queen's Regiment played. In the children's classes, Peter Sibbick, as the Pied Piper, and Betty Harris, as a needle-book, were prize-winners in the fancy dress competition. Gordon Drury won a prize for his hobby and spent it on fishing tackle with which, so the *Gloucester Citizen* reported, he caught a turtle at Old Woking.

At last, in 1967 the *Woking News and Mail* could report, slightly inaccurately, that "Crowds flock to Horsell's first show in 36 years". It was now organised by the Horsell Residents' Association and the Horsell Allotments Association. There were 435 visitors and 119 exhibits in the usual classes. The prize lists in the years following the revival were dominated by Mr and Mrs Lawrence and Mr Sadler, and the new allotments off Bullbeggars Lane were favourably commented on in 1970. A new format was sought in 1984, which included prizes for home-produced wine.

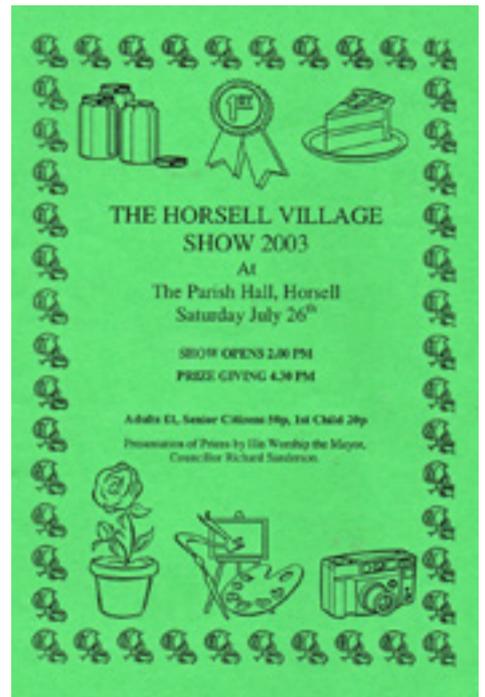
The show continues to flourish, moving from the Village Hall to the spacious grounds of the Junior School in recent years. The 2015 show, probably the 117th, but continuing a 157 year-old tradition, will be held on Saturday 25th July.

And finally - in 2010 the only entry for the ugliest vegetable was not deemed ugly enough, so it only won second prize.

Rosemary & Richard Christophers
Woking History Society

Sources and acknowledgements. Programme for 1895, Horsell parish magazine, Horsell Parochial Church Council minute books, films of 'Woking News and Mail' and 'Surrey Advertiser' at Surrey History Centre.

British Newspaper Archive. On-line resource.



The Programme from 2003. Photo: The Lightbox.



Church Hill House. Photo: The Lightbox.

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When Henry junior died in the early 20th century the business started to go into decline and in 1933 the land was put up for sale. It was bought by H.W. Crane, of Thornash Road, for just £4,000, who then developed the 'Horsell High Street Estate'. Further down the road (beyond Nursery Road), Davis Estates sold their houses along the High Street in the late 1930s for up to £_____!

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