



VILLAGE NEWS

WEST END

Volume 13 Issue 2
SUMMER 2015

W.I. CENTENARY BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTY



*Singing 'Jerusalem' after the
Garden Party.*



Yeoman of the Guards' royal regalia

The Court Circular stated, "The Duchess of Cornwall held an Afternoon Party in the gardens of Buckingham Palace..." The Countess of Wessex was also expected to join the party. In addition Princess Alexandra, and the Duchess of Gloucester appeared, much to our delight. Places were limited to two per institute, chosen by ballot. Due to a National F.W.I. spread sheet error, 500 additional members were invited by mistake. As a result the long term President of West End (Esher) W.I. had her invitation withdrawn. This was very upsetting, without her West End (Esher) W.I. would no longer exist. Our protests were acknowledged but no action was taken.

The day, June 2nd, turned out to be cool, with rain threatening and very windy! When I got within sight of the Palace I saw hundreds of undaunted W.I. ladies, advancing en masse, to join the queues to gain admission. They were smartly dressed, but needing to hang on to their hats or fascinators from time to time. Once we eventually emerged from the palace into the garden the sun suddenly shone briefly on the guests and several Yeomen of the Guard. Some W.I. members were already having tea. I managed to find a front row position to await the arrival of the Royal party. Tea the next item on my agenda was beautifully organised. We queued in true British fashion to receive a rectangular plate with an indentation for a tea cup, or in my case a glass of iced coffee! We helped ourselves to an assortment of delicious sandwiches and cakes, the coffee eclairs were especially good. Plastic containers of water were also available and ice cream tubs distributed later.

Two Military Bands played, one either side of the garden. There were tea tents for the Royal party, Diplomats and a Main one. Members of the Royal family separated and each one was surrounded by W.I. members watching those lucky enough to be introduced. I was very proud at how relaxed our members appeared to be, when chatting. It goes without saying that the Royal ladies were all charming. Men in grey suits were needed to ensure that the eager ladies watching stood back to allow space for movement. Cameras were strictly forbidden inside the Palace grounds. Sue Dane and I were very lucky to represent Winterdown W.I., Jane Tarbuck represented West End (Esher) W.I. as Treasurer.

Margaret Dane

WEDDING CELEBRATION



Many congratulations to Toby Passant and his new wife Caroline (nee Wright) of West End, who married at Christ Church, Esher on Saturday 25th April. The bride looked beautiful in a full length white lace dress purchased from "Love Me Do" in Walton. The bridesmaids were Caroline's nieces, Harriet and Martha, who wore cream dresses with dusky pink sashes. Toby's four year old son, Max, was Pageboy and wore a navy suit. One hundred and seventy people attended the Reception at Imber Court. The newlyweds were driven to Hampton Court for photographs where Toby had previously popped the question on Caroline's birthday in July on a boat. The wedding car (inset below) is a Brenchley Convertible.

The couple honeymooned in Venice.

We wish Toby and Caroline a very long and happy marriage.



WEST END JUNIOR CRICKET See more action in the Village Club Sports Special



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COME AND MEET US AND LISTEN TO TALKS IN FRENCH IN THE VILLAGE HALL!

Talks in French on French life, history, culture and language take place at 8.15pm in the West End Village Hall on the third Wednesday of every month from October to June.

There are also opportunities to improve your French by taking part in French language workshops.

For further information or a copy of our programme please call Cavan Taylor on 01932 864258

The actual dates and subjects of next year's talks will be published soon:

DO COME AND JOIN US. The price is only £5 per talk or £30 for the whole season.

For further information please contact Cavan Taylor on 01932 864258 or cavan.taylor@btopenworld.com

or Brigitte Tiller on 01932 860842 or brigitte@ptiller.com or visit our website :

<https://www.dontyzack.care4free.net/cercle.html>.



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH, WEST END

St George's continues to go from strength to strength with an increase in attendance at our 9am Sunday service and many new young families participating. It's becoming increasingly popular for weddings and baptisms and often chosen as a smaller and more intimate venue for funerals.



Our major fund raising event at the West End Flower Show is always very popular. As usual this year, the Church will be open to visitors, and we hope to sell a huge variety of home made cakes, preserves, our St George's Recipe Book, plant cuttings, and of course David Gerrard's amazing breads. The teas will be served in the Village Hall by the team from Christ Church, which works perfectly in tandem with our fundraising efforts at St George's. Keep an eye open for us this year on the village green, join us for a cuppa and a cake in the village hall....and come and buy a cake for the weekend from the church!

The annual Pet Service (our 8th) will be held on Sunday 20th September at 4pm. Please put the date in your diary now – pets (suitably tethered!), children and parents, grandparents, friends – come along and join us. It's always fun. Our main challenge this year was to finance the purchase of a replacement organ. As many of you will know, our ancient model gave up the ghost on Christmas Eve! We're pleased to tell you that we found a fabulous replacement – it's now installed and fully functioning. You may have noticed that the singing has improved if you have joined us or are just walking by!

If any of you, or someone you know, would appreciate a home visit or receive home communion, please contact the Parish Office on 01372 462282 or Peter Lindow on 01372 462041. We look forward to seeing you at the Flower Show.

Andrea Lindow and Bridget Williams

WEST END RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

This year's AGM was held on Friday 1st May 2015. As ever the main concerns were of parking and traffic throughout the village. The worst parking problem stemmed from that caused by visitors to The Princess Alice Hospice and Garsons. There was some suggestion that, in relation to the Hospice, perhaps things were getting better but it was agreed that there were still some days when it was unacceptable, indeed one such day the police had to be called to West End Gardens to help.

WERA have had numerous meetings with the Hospice on the point and it has to be accepted that they have made efforts to help with the problem. We are still exploring other solutions but in the meantime we have contacted the Hospice who have asked that residents who have a concern about parking to ring their main reception on 01372 468811 (including weekends) and ask for the facilities department. That department holds a database of car registration numbers so should be able to contact the owner immediately.

A number of issues were raised in relation to Garsons. Concern was voiced as to the size of the new premises and their application for an alcohol licence. In addition there was concern in relation to both the volume and speed of traffic travelling to their premises, particularly at weekends.

To that end WERA organised and attended a meeting at Garsons. The latter confirmed that in fact the foot print of their new premises is the same size as that of the old and that the intention was to make Garsons better rather than bigger. They confirmed that they would hold a licence to sell alcohol, but they already had such a licence and there was no intention to extend opening hours.

They accepted the concerns regarding the traffic, however they agreed to try to restrict weekend deliveries and would try to encourage morning deliveries. In addition they will speak to their delivery drivers and staff in relation to the appropriate speed at which to travel through the village. They would encourage any resident who sees a speeding car to report it to them with a description of make and colour even if it wasn't possible to obtain the registration number and they will try to follow it up.

David Archer, who attended the meeting, agreed that one possibility to the speeding traffic problem would be to paint a 20 mph speed limit sign on the road. He is to investigate the matter and will get back to us.

It is clear that the traffic which caused difficulties by parking around the village is more likely to be visiting the Green rather than Garsons. Nevertheless, if the residents would find it beneficial, Garsons will continue to put cones out and to try and keep the traffic flowing at busy times.

Aside from the traffic another attempt was made to encourage people to sign up to a village email alert system, anyone wishing to do so who wasn't at the AGM is welcome to forward their email address to me and I will pass it on.

And finally, the summer fair will soon be upon us, could I make the usual plea for any unwanted books or pictures for the WERA book stall? Any donations please contact either me (via email) or Doug Fryer (01372 463277) and we will arrange collection.

Email: susannahbramley@googlemail.com

Susannah Bramley, Chairman



BUTTONS & BOW "THE BUSY Bs"

We at Buttons & Bow have been as busy as ever. At Easter we enjoyed tea and the Easter Bonnet Parade. We have just celebrated our 9th Birthday. It doesn't seem possible!

Trips and days out have also been enjoyed including a day at Chatham Dockyard celebrating the "40s Evacuees". Nostalgic memories of carrying a ration book, being able to see the guns, aircraft, veteran cars and having the opportunity to go aboard the HMS Beagle and submarine, 'Ocelot', as well as others. Many joined in dancing the Jitterbug to the bands and to meet the 'boys' in uniform! Visits were also made to Canterbury, Brooklands Museum including the "Concorde Experience". A beautiful day was spent sailing down the Thames from Runnymede for the "Magna Carta" cruise enjoying a Ploughman's lunch on board. Forthcoming visits include: "Teapot Island" museum with over 7000 teapots to see and then to enjoy a cream tea. Visits are also planned to the Cotswolds and Blenheim Palace.

Visiting speakers include subjects on Canine Partners, an ex Mayor's duties in her year of office and Who Remembers the Winter of 1947? Holidays include a visit to Warners "Sinah Warren" on Hayling Island in August and of course the two Turkey and Tinsel breaks later on.

A Charity Coffee Morning is planned for September, so please keep an eye out for the details. Why not pop in one Monday afternoon between 2pm and 4.15pm in the Village Club. Why not give us a go and find new friendships over a nice cup of tea. Want to know more, then contact Betty Bowpitt on 01372 465937—What have you got to lose?

Betty Bowpitt



WEST END BRIDGE CLUB

by Pat Baumann

It has been a very exciting term and now that Summer is here, members are enjoying many events, including the Queen Elizabeth Foundation Bridge Drive at Dorincourt, a new venture which was well supported. Another Charity Bridge Drive was held on 12th May in West End in aid of "Pets As Therapy" (PAT) organised by Pat McEwan and her team. It was a super afternoon with a fabulous raffle run by Sheila Rice-Smith and her helpers.

Winners of the points play were George Colley and partner, Eileen Ranger. A delicious Afternoon Tea was also held. In all an astonishing total of £600 was raised for "Pets As Therapy".

The Club meets every Tuesday at West End Village Hall at 1.45-4.45pm during summertime. Chicago is played on the first Tuesday of the month. Why not come along? The atmosphere is relaxed and (if necessary) a bridge partner will be found for you.



Blue Tits just emerging from a local nest box.
Captured by Don Tyzack.

WEST END CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE EXCELLENT DOG HANDLING SKILLS

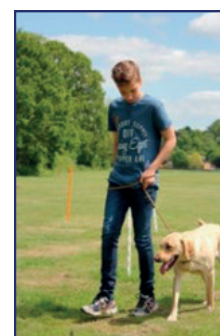


What a fabulous training afternoon we had when West End children, all trainees of 'Sanity For Dogs', showed great commitment to their dogs.

The tasks almost seemed too easy: heel work; synchronised sit and stay with all handlers walking off about 20 yards; one-by-one recall while the other dogs stay off the lead away from their handlers; swapping dogs so each child had to work with a dog quite unfamiliar to them.

I can honestly say that I could not be any more proud of how well both children and dogs mastered these tasks. There

was not one moment where things got out of control. All dogs were utterly focused and took great direction from whoever they had as their handler. Quite an achievement when it's your own dog, let alone one you barely know and have no rapport with. Hats off to the kids for obviously having practised hard and for putting the 'Sanity For Dogs' principles into practice so well. Everyone more than well-deserved their special award gold medal at the end of the session! Watch out you grown-ups you'll be up next! Better get the slip lead and whistle out now and start practising. The youngsters have set the bar quite high—it will be a challenge to beat their performance!



Email: sanityfordogs@yahoo.com Kirstin 07715 422017
Website: www.sanityfordogs.com

WINTERDOWN WI

Members have enjoyed a variety of walks over the past few months, getting out and about in spite of the sometimes inclement weather. There was a walk in February to Saville Gardens which in spite of the wet weather was enjoyed by all. Then in March a walk along the Tow path to Hampton Court to see the daffodils. Unfortunately as everything was late blooming this year there were few daffodils in evidence but everyone enjoyed the exercise.

In April there was a visit to see Brompton Cemetery. This is one of London's Magnificent Seven historic cemeteries. It is the only Cemetery in the country owned by the Crown and managed by The Royal Parks on behalf of the nation. Some members found the huge number of graves rather depressing, but amongst them we managed to find the grave of Emily Pankhurst.



We had chosen a lovely day in mid-April for this walk in London and after visiting the cemetery we walked down Kings Road and along Chelsea Embankment. At Ranelagh Gardens by the Royal Chelsea Hospital (where the Chelsea Flower show is held each year) we stopped to sit in the sun for a while before making our way home.

In May members went to see the Azaleas in the Isabella Plantation in Richmond Park but again the weather was against us. However in spite of the rain the colours of the flowers were amazing and well worth the visit.



The Spring Outing this year was a day out in Brighton. 16 members had a wonderful day, the weather was glorious and warm enough to enjoy a walk along the sea front and for some to enjoy lunch alfresco.



Members have enjoyed talks about: Hair fashions and makeup in the Elizabethan and Georgian periods, Handmade bespoke shoes and an amusing talk from a retired Barrister.

As this is the Centenary of the WI there have been lots of events to celebrate it. There has been a baton relay around the country and in May it arrived in Surrey. Some members went to Ripley to see the baton arriving there via a vintage bicycle, prior to its final destination at the Royal Albert Hall in June.

Margaret Dane and Sue Dane were lucky enough to go to Buckingham Palace for the WI Centenary Celebration Garden Party hosted by the Duchess of Cornwall. Although the day was cold and windy they both had a day to remember.

Several members had been to the Brooklands College Training Restaurant and on one occasion enjoyed a St George's Day celebration menu and on another visit a Thai themed menu. The food and service were very good and we were pleased to be able to support the young trainees.

June 4th saw us celebrating the 44th birthday of Winterdown WI. We had a very pleasant social evening with everyone contributing something for supper. We were entertained with quizzes and rounded off the evening with strawberries and cream gateaux.

Forthcoming events:

2nd July – Sheila Willis 'Handbags to Handcuffs'

3rd September – Gill Harris 'Patchwork Quilts' (in support of Help for Heroes)

1st October – Margaret Watson 'Life on a Harp String.'

All talks start at 8pm.

Winterdown WI meet on the first Thursday of the month at 8.00 pm in West End Village Hall, West End Lane. Visitors and new members are made very welcome. If you would like to join the largest voluntary women's organisation in the UK contact Secretary, Ann Tennant on 01372 466725 or visit our website:

www.winterdownwi.co.uk

Article: Caroline Thyer

Photographs: Caroline Thyer & Ann Tennant

THE MOLE (*L. Talpa europaea*)



Unlike the loveable character from "Wind in the Willows" moles can be a nuisance. Moles are rarely seen, as these

mammals live mostly underground. They dig out a system of tunnels and chambers and dispose of the excavated soil by throwing up molehills on the surface. This soil is well sifted and could be used for planting seedlings. Moles don't feed on plants, they are carnivorous feeding on invertebrates that fall into their system of tunnels. Any plant damage they cause is incidental to their lifestyle. Various steps can be taken to encourage them to move elsewhere. These include: live-capture traps, netting, mole repellents, electronic devices, planting Caper spurge (*Euphorbia lathyris*) or hiring a professional. However, they would need to be moved at least one mile away from where they are found. Live moles are about 15cm (6in) long, with dense blackish-brown fur and broad front paws that are adapted for digging. The main breeding season runs from February to June and a female will have three or four young in a nest built underground. Outside the breeding season Moles lead largely solitary lives. They feed on earthworms and other soil-dwelling creatures, not on plant roots.

I can remember as a child my mother owned a coat made of small black mole pelts lined with red satin. At the time I thought it was beautiful. One just cannot imagine stepping out in such a coat these days!

Angela Stockbridge

WEST END SUMMER SHOW 29th AUGUST 2015

We had a wonderful day at last year's 60th Anniversary West End Summer Show, the village green being crowded all afternoon on what was a sunny and warm English summer's day. We are hoping that the lovely weather of last year is repeated once again this August as the show enters its seventh decade.

Once again in the main marquee, the Show will include 124 classes, covering vegetables, flower arranging, cookery, photography and children's classes. Last year's displays looked spectacular so for those of you who have not come into the marquee before, please come in and see the marvellous entries from your neighbours! There are 32 silver trophies, cups and plates to be won with some new classes this year. The show programmes will be delivered to residents in the period late June/early July so please look at the entry classes and enter as many as you wish. If you have never entered before then do have a go. The show is for the village and participating in this way is a great way of being involved in village life as well as actively upholding a great village event and tradition.

Events and attractions this year will once again include the Arts and Crafts display and stalls in the marquee, Children's Sports, the Dog Show courtesy of the Kennel Club, Pony rides, Dunk the Damsel, Smash-A-Plate, Matto the Clown and Punch and Judy, Classic Cars, a Silver Band and the Tug o' War which produced a marvellous competition last year. Around the green there will be numerous side shows, traditional fun-fare attractions, and charity stalls as well as teas being available in the Village Hall. St George's Church and the West End Sports and Social Club will be open, so please consider paying each of these a visit. At the end of the afternoon we will award the prizes and hold the raffle draw and an auction of flower show entries.

I am glad to say that as a result of last year's successful show our funds have returned to relatively good order. The committee are very grateful for the continued support of our sponsors and advertisers and to each and every one of the village households who subscribe to the show. A committee member will be visiting each household over the next few weeks. A free programme and entry to the marquee comes with each subscription to the show so please give generously towards the running of the show.

The Flower Show is one of a number of events taking place over the Bank Holiday weekend. On the Sunday, West End Cricket Club are organising their annual Party by the Pond and on the Monday Save the Children are holding an Opera Gala evening. Details and contact numbers are given in the Programme and we hope that you will make the most of the weekend by supporting these events.

On the Friday afternoon before the show (2.00 – 4.30pm), and on the Saturday morning (8.30 – 11.30am) and afternoon (from 5.30 – 7.30pm) we would welcome additional muscle on the green to construct and deconstruct the awnings, set up and remove tables and chairs etc.

The committee look forward to seeing every West End villager on the green on Saturday August 29th to be part of and enjoy another great West End Summer Show.

Donald Mungall, President, West End Summer Show, 01372 463199



Photographs taken at the 2014 show, by Helen Marsden of Canterbury Studio and Simon Battensby

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Save the Children

WEST END (ESHER) WI REPORT

2015 has started well for our members with interesting meetings and very good speakers.

In March Peter Thompson paid our WI a return visit, anticipated with pleasure by those members who were present at his previous talk. This time he recounted his experience of becoming a barrister. He told us of gaining a pupillage, this involved training in Barristers' Chambers and gaining experience at the Bar. He needed to buy a black gown for this, black gowns date from the 17th century. Prior to that time gowns were of different colours, but due to the prolonged mourning of the death of King Charles II black gowns remained. Often barristers buy second hand wigs so that they will not be recognised on their first few appearances by wearing pristine white wigs that show them as new to the job! These were just a few of the anecdotes Peter recounted.

As a complete contrast in April Alan Baker, ably assisted by his wife Vera, treated us to the history of the British Music Hall. Slides of performers and recordings of their songs accompanied the talk. Music hall began in the 1840's mainly in taverns. As its popularity grew and developed from entertainment at the end of the day for working men to being enjoyed by a wider audience, purpose built theatres were erected in many cities. We also learned about the most popular performers and their favourite melodies. He accompanied this with several recorded songs and anecdotes. For instance Marie Lloyd was not invited to appear in the 1912 Command Performance probably because of her bohemian lifestyle and risqué songs and yet she was the most popular singer. Music Hall performances enjoyed great popularity, which peaked just prior to World War I. Many performers such as George Robey and Harry Lauder entertained the troops. Music Hall declined in the 1920s being replaced by radio and movies. Alan and Vera encouraged us to join in the songs which added to our enjoyment.

In May our main item was voting for or against the Resolution chosen by the Surrey Federation to go up to the 2015 AGM at the Royal Albert Hall. The resolution is on the assessment of need in long-term care. Finally poems by Pam Ayres were beautifully read by Pearl. So the meeting ended with laughter.

Janet Colley

"NEW LOOK" FOR THE VILLAGE CLUB BAR



The club bar closed recently for several days for refurbishment. The interior designed by Sophie Histon of Histon Allvey, local interior designers, includes new lighting above the bar which was also repainted, carpets, tables and stools and redecoration throughout. The bar staff Luke Boyd and Nick Martin are seen here serving some of the regulars. It all looks very smart indeed!

SURREY POLICE

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PC Danny Bond, FIN3682

email: elmbridgesnt@surrey.pnn.police.uk

PCSO 13867 Nigel Oates .

PCSO 15215 Vicky Holdaway

Officers can be contacted by dialling 101 or by email:

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Crime Reduction Adviser is

Elaine Burtenshaw 14613 Tel: 101 :

email: burtenshaw14613@surrey.pnn.police.uk

Debbie Smith FIN: 13330

Neighbourhood Team Coordinator, Surrey Police, Elmbridge Borough : Tel: 101 Extension: 38857

Police Report:

Nothing of any alarm to report with regard to West End, but please make sure you keep your sheds and garages secure. This applies especially to bicycles. The Borough has seen a number of break-ins to sheds and garages to steal bikes. Residents are advised to chain bikes even when locked in a shed or garage. Either chain bikes together or secure them to other large items such as a lawn mower.

PC Danny Bond FIN3682

ADRIAN BOYD

Right: Claire with Adrian in May 2005



Following the Clubhouse refurbishment of the bar area, a number of stools/chairs were donated by David Rolfe.

Claire Finnie also purchased

one in memory of her late partner, Adrian Boyd. Adrian was the founder creator and brain child behind the Hampton Court Flower Show. He lived at Riverbank, Hampton Court and literally 'dreamed' up the scheme as he walked to his office over the bridge. It took him nine months to get the scheme up and running and after three years of negotiating with the Palace officials, launched the first show in 1990. He was the Executive Producer of a video made in 1992 "Hampton Court Palace International Flower Show—A Day at the Show". Following their visit to the show in 1992, Adrian received a letter from HRH Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh.

In his younger years, already a budding and very successful entrepreneur in advertising, his ads included the J-Cloth, and the women's fragrance "Charlie" amongst many others. In the 1970s Adrian rented a house in West End, together with other advertising colleagues and regularly visited the Prince of Wales as well as another watering hole he affectionately referred to as "the hut". He told Claire many amusing stories around this and, of course, he was referring to the old cricket clubhouse.

Claire had a memorial plaque made for Adrian who sadly died in March 2012. The stool is pictured in the photograph of the refurbished clubhouse bar on the left.





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PHOTOGRAPHIC CORNER

Nik Wilkinson captured these Egyptian Geese with their brood of six goslings by West End pond on 15th April. Thanks to their very vigilant parents, they all survived.



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VILLAGE NEWS WEST END

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www.jrnewbouldandsons.co.uk

WEST END FILMS



Our last season included
films from Norway,
Egypt and Japan, as well
as a couple of classic

British films, Withnail and I, and The
Servant.

The Film Club closes over the sum-
mer, and resumes for the next season in
September in the Village Hall.

If you are interested in foreign
language, black and white and classic
films, why not join our friendly group at
the Village Hall every third Sunday from
20th September. Films start at 7.30pm.
See our website in August for the
autumn season's programme.

www.westendfilms.co.uk

Our website also includes a back
catalogue of the films we have screened
over the last eight years.

Robin Crane
westendfilms@btinternet.com

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