



# VILLAGE NEWS

WEST END ESHER

Volume 20 Issue 2  
SUMMER 2023

## NEWS FROM WEST END POND

Villagers began to gather by the Swan's nest on the pond as soon as word got round that there were eggs in the nest, but there was some uncertainty to how many eggs had been laid!



Initially, Tony Currie and Dawn Tee photographed what was thought to be three and seven eggs respectively. You can see clearly from Kevin Bezzant's superb image above, that there are 5 eggs in the nest. There was great excitement and anticipation when the traditional bunting and balloons appeared on the 22nd May, announcing the arrival of the first cygnet and that the others were about to hatch! Three of the five eggs hatched, sadly the remaining two were infertile. During the gestation period, the Cob was seen to be very protective of his Pen and clutch of eggs, frequently circling and 'policing' the pond showing aggressive behaviour towards the other wildlife, in particular the Canada geese, attacking and chasing them from the pond at every opportunity!

This year we have had an enormous amount of wildlife activity around the pond leading to two pairs of Canada geese producing 12 and 6 goslings respectively. The Coots, Moorhens and Mallard ducks also produced several offspring! So far, all have survived and are doing well watched over by very protective parents.



*Above: Two cygnets had just hatched.*

Sadly the swans and cygnets went missing and were last seen in West End on Tuesday 14th June.

Contact was made with the Swan Sanctuary, Swan Support in Datchet and Wildlife Aid to ascertain what might have happened to them, without success. However, local residents have since reported they saw them walking their cygnets in the direction of the River Mole along West End Lane.

We can only hope they have found a safe haven on the river in the shade.

*Angela Stockbridge*

## CONGRATULATIONS TO VICTORIA KLINCKE AND BARRY MURRAY ON THEIR WEDDING DAY



Victoria and Barry decided to tie the knot on a sunny Wednesday in June after 17 years together. After a visit to Weybridge Registry Office for a ceremony they returned home to the wonderful village setting for photos with Victoria's parents, and then onwards to the Petersham Hotel for a Wedding breakfast and an overnight stay. They will be cruising the Fjords of Norway on their honeymoon.



Victoria moved to the former post office West End in 2000 and was joined by Barry some eight years later.

Victoria looked elegant and stunning in her beautiful cream lace dress with a posy of roses.

*Photos: Above: Victoria's father and Right: Angela Stockbridge*

## THE PRINCE OF WALES TEMPORARY CLOSURE FOR REBUILDING WORK



The Prince of Wales will be closing on **Monday 10 July until November 2023** whilst the rebuilding work is underway.

Ed Dugdill, the Opening Manager, Greene King, will be holding a meeting at the Prince of Wales at 4pm on the Wednesday 5th July to discuss the rebuilding works for any residents who may wish to attend.



## WEST END PLAYGROUP



Making children happy since 1975  
Ofsted Outstanding for over a decade  
Tel: 07395 901584

[www.westendplaygroup.com](http://www.westendplaygroup.com)  
Registered charity number 1100523



Hello everyone,

At West End Playgroup we are enjoying the tail end of this term's theme of 'Our World', which started with the topic 'Earth in Space' and ends with 'Looking After Our World'. In between, the children have learned about the planets in the solar system, the phases of the moon, the seven continents, a range of countries, natural features of the Earth such as rain forests and volcanos and lots, lots more. In the last few weeks of term, we will be learning all about where we live with our families and how we can look after our planet by recycling.



Above: Ice rescue

We have had many discussions about British values, celebrated the Coronation, made our very own volcano and caused multiple eruptions and we have played with water and sand to help us learn about deserts and the oceans. In these past weeks of lovely weather the canopies have been out and the water play has been the favourite activity by far.



Above: Water Play

The playgroup year is almost at an end and this is the time when we all start to feel a little emotional as we prepare to wave goodbye to many of the children we have looked after over the last year or two and for whom we have grown to care so deeply.

We feel proud to have been part of their journey and hope that they will remember their time at playgroup fondly. We always love to see children who have previously attended the playgroup pop by to say hello and we have been blessed with many visits this year.

Holly and I will be running a program of fun sports at the Flower Show in August and hope to see lots of children past and present come and say hello and join in with the event. Until then, have a great summer everyone.

Article and photos:  
Helen Yates, Manager

Left: Cooling off in the Sprinkler



## THE MEADOW ON THE POUND



Following a request on the West End Community Facebook page for donations of plants to create a meadow to hide "the blot on the landscape" the Council left exposed on the Pound at the junction of Hawkshill Way and West End Lane, I had an excellent response and as you can see the area has been a picture this Spring! The poppies have been very colourful.



A huge 'thankyou' to all the local residents who donated/plants (sadly not a good year for many plants), however, there is a good show at the moment with very tall Hollyhocks almost ready to bloom!!

Alice Austin

Photos: Panos Attalas

## THE DOUGH SHACK

Many of the villagers are disappointed that the Dough Shack Pizza van has left its spot in Hawkshill Way. It was only there for 3 hours from 5.30-8.30 on a Thursday evening and provided many a delicious pizza to local residents in their hour of need! We would love to see them back - especially now that the Prince of Wales is destined to be closed for refurbishment for a few months. Surely they didn't disrupt the village enough to banish them?!! Oh, and they are very good pizzas!

Bridget Williams

## THE CUCKOO SONG (Lat. Cuculus Canorus)



On a recent walk through West End woods, Margaret Mazzina and Rosie Master heard the Cuckoo calling. A rare sound indeed these days. We used to look forward to hearing the Cuckoo's Song frequently during the months of May and June, but unfortunately they seem to be in serious decline.

They are interesting birds, dove-sized with a blue-grey back, head and chest, and dark barred and white under parts. With their sleek body, long tail and pointed wings, they are not unlike kestrels or sparrowhawks.

Cuckoos are summer visitors and are well-known brood parasites. Instead of building their own nest, the females lay their eggs in other birds' nests, especially meadow pipits, dunnocks and reed warblers. When a female cuckoo finds a suitable nest, and the hosts aren't looking, she removes one of their eggs and lays her own egg in its place. Cuckoo young hatch after just 12 days, and push the hosts' eggs or babies out of the nest, allowing it to eat all food brought by the host bird. By the time the cuckoo leaves the nest, it is far bigger than the host bird, but the adoptive parent continues to feed the young cuckoo for a further two weeks.

With their young being raised by another bird, adult cuckoos are free to leave the UK much earlier. Most leave during June for Africa, where they winter. The young cuckoos leave later on, once they're fully fledged.

Their recent population decline makes this a Red List species in the [2021 UK Conservation Status Report](#). Red is the highest conservation priority, with species on this list needing urgent action. Species on this list, such as cuckoos, are globally threatened, with big declines in breeding populations and ranges

Reproduced from RSPB website - Angela Stockbridge



## HERSHAM GOLF CLUB LADIES ENJOYING THEIR CORONATION COMPETITION



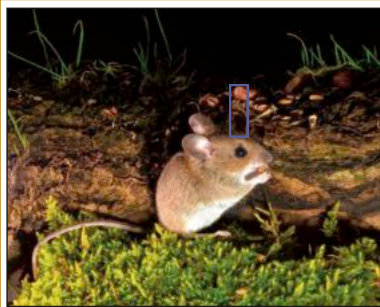
Six minutes from West End is a hidden gem. Hersham Golf Club is an 18 hole short but tricky course. Set in a former GLC tree nursery, it is a pretty course with trees, ditches and lakes. Spot the wildlife while you play golf! Hersham ladies section is a small friendly group who play on

Mondays and Wednesdays. Our roll ups are turn up and mix in for 9 or 18 holes, which means it is flexible and inclusive.

We cater for all abilities, some ladies play for fun while others are intent on reducing their handicap. We have various competitions throughout the year, such as Captain's Day, Spring and Autumn meetings, as well as various fun competitions. We play friendly matches throughout the summer and have fun on days out at other local clubs. We also spend a night away with 2 rounds of golf once a year.

It's not all golf, as we have a bridge and canasta group, plus a walking group known as Hedgehogs Walking. An academy is in place for those ladies who want to learn to play golf or brush up their skills, plus an excellent driving range. Midweek membership is very reasonable and there is no joining fee. Just pop down and meet us at 8.50am on a Monday or Wednesday or for further information call Veronica on 07870 386825.

*Veronica Whittally*



### JUST LOOK AT THESE TWO GREAT PHOTOGRAPHS!

Left: A cute little Field mouse nibbling a nut  
by Paul Tyzack

Right: The inquisitive 'Patio mouse'  
by Don Tyzack



## WISLEY EASTER EGG DESIGN COMPETITION

Mary, aged 6, entered the Easter Egg Design competition last year and was thrilled to learn she had been successful with her entry which was displayed by the Glasshouse as part of the Giant Easter Egg Trail in April this year together with 7 other winners.



The eight winners were chosen from hundreds of amazing entries by both staff, volunteers, schools and visitors. Sadly the deadline this year was 30th June, but why don't you have a go next year?

*Photo: Courtesy, Oliver Dowden, Woking News & Mail*

## INDY'S SUMMER DOG BLOG

I think West End looks particularly beautiful in the summer don't you? All those pretty fluffy ducklings that know instantly how to swim and blossom that makes my nose explode with a billion aromas. This year, I especially liked playing in the long grass on the green but it's gone now, apparently because it's not May anymore!

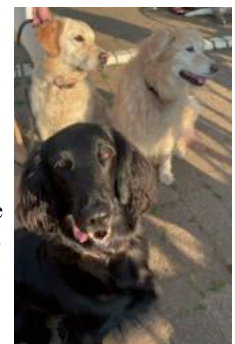
Mummy put a nesting box in our garden and we all listened to the faint cheapy noises that came from inside. Gradually, the noises got louder until one sunny, Saturday morning, five, sweet, tiny Blue Tits fluttered and flopped to the ground. My girls said I had to be quiet and still so I put my head on one side with my ears on full alert. After a lot of effort all the little birds managed to learn to fly and they've all gone now. I felt a bit sad and waited for a bit to see if they came back but got hungry so went to ask for my dinner. Perhaps they'll come back next year.



I always try to be helpful so, as we live on a hill, if I hear the post lady, I run to the end of our drive to collect our post which saves her walking up the steps. Everyone laughs so it must be a funny thing to do too. Now, I know lots of you will find this warm weather a problem but personally I enjoy a bit of sunbathing on the lawn followed by a good roll to scratch my back and a quick dip to cool down. My Mummy bought me a cool mat and it is wonderfully well, cool. You should try one! The West End Sports and Social club has been extremely welcoming, especially on a sunny Sunday evening where, whilst the G&Ts splash and chink above me I try to chat to as many of you as possible. It's where I

recently met Lola and Lexi. Oh, we all had pawsome time mingling. Sad news though of a neighbourhood friend, black Labrador, Brooke who at 13, passed leaving her owner very sad. I know she was a loyal, beautiful and special companion. A dog's life is never long enough. Paw salute, Brooke! August of course means THE VILLAGE SHOW! It's the best day ever as we all love to enter the dog show to parade our owners, don't we? Get them to enter for 'best sausage catcher', 'musical sit' or 'golden oldie.' It's great fun and we all laugh our paws off!

Don't forget I love to chat so if you see me do stop and say hello. I'm the flat coated retriever with the pretty pink collar.



*Indy*

### Your invitation to the Charity Gala Night

to enjoy an evening of Opera Classics and Show Music performed by four professional opera soloists accompanied on keyboard  
All seated in the marquee on West End Village Green at 7pm on

Bank Holiday Monday  
28th August 2023  
in aid of Save the Children

Tickets £25  
Book by email  
stcesher@gmail.com  
or by phone to Roger Marsden  
on 01932 866645

Bring a group and picnic on the green beforehand

Seats reserved for groups of eight or more  
Doors open 6.30pm  
Evening finishes around 9pm  
West End Lane, Esher KT10 8LE



**Save the Children**





## ST GEORGE'S CHURCH WEST END

*St. George's Bunting: Bridget Williams*

Summer is here at last and our church is continuing to be a focal point for the village, with its now gleaming paintwork and stunning display of roses. We have to thank our small gardening team who work consistently throughout the year (whatever the weather!) to ensure that we always have a seasonal display of flowers to be enjoyed by all.

It was lovely to see many new faces at our well attended Easter Sunday service. Two weeks later it was St George's Day and you must have seen the St George's bunting flapping on the fence in the breeze. We chose this Sunday to hold a Healing Service incorporated into the usual Sunday Eucharist – and was much appreciated by all who attended. Needless to say, the St George's bunting remained in place and we added the Union Jack flags for the Coronation on 6<sup>th</sup> May.

We decided to keep all the bunting in place for our "Thank You" event – which was our opportunity to thank all those who had so generously donated money to our Restoration Fund. On a Saturday lunchtime we



were able to chat to everyone, whilst enjoying some wine and refreshments. Oliver and Barbara (two of our organists) played beautifully in the background. It only lasted a couple of hours, but every one enjoyed themselves and we were very pleased to be able to thank people in person.

There was no service at St. George's on 4th June as there was a combined special service at Christ Church to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of David Gerrard's Ordination. It was a wonderfully attended service when David delivered his 2,800th sermon - which was excellent as usual!



Unfortunately it was all so poignant as his wife of 60 years, Jenny, (seen here with David), had died in the Princess Alice Hospice just a few days earlier. David and Jenny



have been greatly valued members of our congregation at West End for many years – and we will miss Jenny hugely. Jenny's funeral took place in a packed St George's on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

We have sadly lost another long-standing member of our congregation, Pam Parry, who in spite of her almost total

blindness and increasing deafness – continued to attend every week until the restrictions of Covid prevented her from attending. We will all miss her too.

A reminder that we will be closed on any 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month, allowing our congregation to join up with our Christ Church congregation - and enjoy the bonus of a beautiful choir. For these Sundays we will be putting a notice on the gate to remind people of the closure.

Please do join us at as many or any of the services that you can. You are always very welcome.

For more information about all our services (at both churches) please do visit our website: <http://www.esherparish.org.uk> Here you can find everything you might want to know about the Parish of Esher including Music on The Green. We put topical notices and a monthly events calendar on the fence outside the church – so please do stop and look to see what's going on as you pass by.

Finally – thank you as always for your continued support and we wish you all an enjoyable summer.

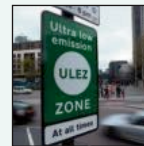
We are all looking forward to our annual Village Show when our church will be open as usual to welcome and show visitors around. Our popular cake stall will be selling the usual delights, whilst Cream Teas will be served during the afternoon in the Village Hall by the lovely Christ Church congregation. Pop in and say hello!



*Article: Andrea Lindow and  
Bridget Williams*

*Photos: Angela Stockbridge*

## LONDON ULTRA LOW EMISSION ZONE (ULEZ)



As many of you will know, the Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, is trying to force this on many local Councils (who are challenging his decision in the Courts) not least in the Greater London areas including Surrey.

The issue is a thorny one, about which many people are confused as to whether or not their cars are compliant with, or exempt from the charge. We hope this helps to clear up the issue for you.

As we understand it, petrol cars that are more than 40 years old can apply for exemption from ULEZ.

Petrol cars that meet Euro 4 and /Euro 5/6 emissions standard are exempt, which means that almost every car registered **AFTER 2006** is ULEZ compliant.

**Most Cars registered BEFORE 2001 are liable to the charge, together with some vehicles registered between 2001 and 2005.** However, most **Diesel Cars registered BEFORE 2015** and most **Vans registered BEFORE 2016** are subject to the ULEZ charge.

Currently, if your vehicle is not ULEZ compliant, you'll have to pay a daily charge of **£12.50** for driving into the ULEZ.

There is no ULEZ exemption for residents in the Zone.

If your vehicle doesn't meet the requirements of ULEZ the fee can be paid online, by phone or with the app.

Currently the ULEZ occupies the same area as the Congestion Charge Zone, and vehicles falling short of certain emissions standards will need to pay an additional fee in order to enter it. The ULEZ is in force 24 hours a day, every day of the year with the exception of Christmas Day.

Use the links below to find out if your vehicle is affected by the ULEZ and/or LEZ and if your journey takes you into the zone.

[info@londonemissioncharge.online](mailto:info@londonemissioncharge.online)



**GARDENS OPEN FOR CHARITY SURREY 2023**  
**The White House West End Lane**



The garden was open over two weekends 20th & 21st May and 17th & 18th June. For those who missed the opportunity to visit, it will be open again for visitors on 22nd and 23rd July. The sun shone most of the time and the visitors enjoyed their tea and cakes which had been donated by our steadfast contributors. All proceeds from refreshments will go to The Princess Alice Hospice.



We will publish the amount raised in the next edition of Village News.



Thank you to all our great volunteers who created a fun atmosphere. It would not have been anywhere near as successful without your help and support.

Article : Anne Hunt  
 Photos: Alice Austin and Angela Stockbridge

**LOCAL ARTISTS EXHIBITION**  
 3rd to 18th June 2003



Rosalind Moysen (above) hosted an exhibition of her paintings in the Stables studio in West End Lane as part of the Surrey Artists Open Studio event in June. There were five artists taking part - a wood turner, sculptress, embroiderer and two painters. The exhibition was a great success and enjoyed by all who took part. Sadly it will be the last show as Rosalind is hoping to move to Cornwall.  
 Photo: Angela Stockbridge

**FAREWELL BELOVED HERCULES**

In a casual conversation with Angie recently, she suggested that I might wish to write a small piece about the retirement of the RAF Hercules fleet, having been involved with the aircraft over many years. Thus, herewith a few snapshots, from my personal perspective.

The Lockheed C-130 Hercules has been a stalwart of the Royal Air Force since coming into service in 1967, and has been indispensable to UK military operations, but sadly has just been taken out of service, as of 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023.

Many people might speak of perhaps not the most comfortable time they've spent in the back of a Hercules on transit flights, but much of the focus of our work was on tactical low-level operations by day and by night, including the dropping of paratroops and stores, working with UK special forces, and operating from very short landing strips in remote areas.

My own involvement started as a co-pilot on 30 Squadron at RAF Fairford in 1968, sharing the airfield with Concorde. In the following year – at very short notice - I was sent briefly to run the RAF airstrip at Anguilla in the Caribbean, after their rebellion, spending 6 weeks there over Christmas and New Year!

In 1978 I joined 47 Squadron at RAF Lyneham, during which time I flew my father Bill, as we supported the Red Arrows on their final displays with the Gnat aircraft. During the Falklands War in 1982, the Hercules fleet was equipped very rapidly with in-flight refuelling probes, and I ran the conversion programme, enabling crews to operate sorties of 24 hours duration down to the Task Force and back, from Ascension Island.



Left: Peter with Hercules 1990

Returning to the fleet in the late 1980s, I was put in charge of all Hercules flying training at Lyneham, and in 1991 spent 10 weeks in Saudi Arabia during the First Gulf War, in command of the air transport detachment throughout the air and ground offensives, working closely with our US, French and New Zealand allies.



The Hercules fleet over the years upgraded to a more modern version, and was heavily involved in operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, where sadly some aircraft and crews were lost, and more recently was pivotal in the evacuation of British citizens from Sudan.

Above: Low-level ops First Gulf War

Its final ceremonial event was as a 3-ship formation in the flypast for the King's official birthday at the Trooping of the Colour.

Sadly, the aircraft has been taken out of service prematurely, on purely financial grounds, and leaves a large capability gap, especially as regards special forces tasks. No other country is making such a move, and ironically it may be nations such as France and Germany that end up buying our fleet!

Nevertheless, we owe a great debt to the many who operated and supported this marvellous aircraft over the past 56 years, and all of us will have many wonderful and poignant memories of our time with our beloved Hercules!



Left: SF Hercules self-protection flares

Peter Bedford



## REMEMBERING

### STEPHEN P DAY CMG



My father, Stephen P Day CMG, long time resident of West End Village has died at the age of 84 after a long struggle with Parkinson's Disease. He lived in West End Village from 1966 to 2002 with his wife Angela and his children Belinda, Philippa and Richard. Belinda also lived for some time in the village with her husband and children.

For much of his adult life Stephen worked in the Foreign Office, serving in the Far East, North America and primarily in the Middle East where he was appointed Ambassador to Qatar and later to Tunis. In 1986 he was specially attached as adviser to Their Royal Highnesses The Prince and Princess of Wales on their first tour of Arabia.

After leaving the Diplomatic Service in 1993 he worked as a consultant on

Middle East affairs, counting several leading international companies and five Arab rulers among his clients.

Stephen served as Chairman of the West End Residents' Association. Amongst his many achievements he set up the sleeping policemen at the south end of the West End Lane and ran the Book Stall at the August Bank Holiday Village Show every year raising money for local charities. One of the organisations he raised money for was the Princess Alice Hospice which is where he spent the last few weeks of his life, surrounded by loving family and friends.

The above photo shows Stephen in front of the former British Embassy in the centre of Tunis, Tunisia where he spent four years serving as Ambassador.

*Philippa Day*

## B & B IN THE VILLAGE



Bed & Breakfast available. All rooms are double bedrooms, made up of king size, and super king beds. The superking can be divided into 2 single beds. All rooms have en-suites and also tea and coffee making facilities, mini fridge with water/juices provided.

Virgin cable TV and WIFI.

A maximum of two adults and 3 children per room.

A warm welcome awaits you. For further information call Edwina Halanen (West End Lane)

on 07721 091184.

## THE CORONATION OF KING CHARLES & QUEEN CAMILLA

King Charles III and Queen Camilla were crowned on Saturday 6th May 2023. The Coronation took place at Westminster Abbey and it is estimated that more than 18 million people watched the historic ceremony.



*The Gold State Coach carrying the new King and Queen en route from Westminster Abbey along Whitehall to Buckingham Palace.*

Thousands of people from all over the UK and the four corners of the world descended on London for the historic event, as well as West End residents, Ashley Stockbridge, who chose to camp overnight in the Mall and his mother, who opted to catch the first train into Waterloo and stand in Whitehall! A week before the Ceremony ardent Royal supporters gathered along The Mall and some very interesting characters were being interviewed by the Press. Two such Royal fans from West End were also interviewed by the Spanish TV News asking for their recollections of Queen Elizabeth's Coronation! Alice Austin and Angela Stockbridge joined the royal super fans on Friday 5th May and spoke with many of the die-hards who had camped out in The Mall for several nights making new friends and having lots of fun!

*Below: Mingling with Royal super fans!*



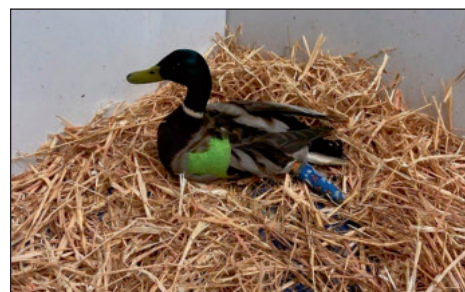
Alice and I were standing in The Mall waiting at a crossing point when several limousines suddenly stopped in front of us and out stepped none other than King Charles who walked over and spoke to members of the public on the opposite side of the Mall, followed by the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. William moved along the line of supporters, but the icing on the cake was when Kate came across and spoke to many of us. She was happy to chat and looked stunning. We had a fabulous day and celebrated with several glasses of bubbly and a delicious afternoon tea at The Café Concerto in Whitehall before returning home to West End.

*Alice Austin & Angela Stockbridge*

## DUCK INJURED IN HIT AND RUN!

*Photo: Gemma Nelson, The Swan Sanctuary*

On his way home in March, Michael Alinden of West End Lane saw a driver hit this little Mallard duck by the Chequers pond and drive off! The Swan Sanctuary was summoned and came to the rescue immediately. He was found in a ditch with a broken leg, his loyal partner by his side.



If the duck hadn't been found he would have died overnight. Thankfully he was promptly operated on at the Sanctuary and is now recovering well thanks to Michael.

**!MOTORISTS PLEASE DRIVE SLOWLY!**



## WEST END VILLAGE SHOW Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August

### Roll up! Roll up!

After last year's successful return to the green in glorious weather, preparations are well underway for this August's bigger and better Village Show! As ever, there'll be plenty to amuse all ages.

Please consider entering the competition in the **Flower Show** marquee, the main event of the day. An expanded variety of classes for all talents awaits with some new categories, particularly aimed to encourage novices. And for aspiring young gardeners, there's a potato growing challenge courtesy of Garsons Farm. Kits are available for under 12s at Garsons while stocks last.



The green will be busy with our traditional **Sideshow** attractions: Smash-a-Plate, Pat-a-Pony, Matto the Clown and the return of Dunk-a-Damsel (hosepipes permitting) along with the wonderful fairground rides.

A wider selection of **food and drink** outlets should satisfy all tastes whilst being entertained by the **Epsom & Ewell Silver Band** and the **Elmbridge Ladies Choir**. made handicrafts. And, good news, the ever popular **Book Stall** makes a return with a new addition of pre-loved children's toys (see details below\*).

**The Arts & Crafts Market** will sell an array of artwork and locally We're delighted that **West End Motor Club** will be displaying their magnificent classic cars again. For younger children, West End Playgroup has created a new format for the **Children's Sports** races whilst **SuperGreat Kids' Stories** will cater for quiet time! **The Fun Dog Show** will provide healthy competition and amusement during the afternoon and our **Grand Raffle** and lively **Auction** will round off the day.



All the information you need will be in our **Show programme** and on our website - [www.westendflowershow.co.uk](http://www.westendflowershow.co.uk). Committee members will be dropping off programmes to households and we would be extremely grateful for a donation, however small, to help towards running the Show.

We couldn't do it without your support and that of our advertisers and sponsors.

However you wish to participate, we look forward to seeing you on **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August from 12.00pm.**

*Steve Kelly, Chairman, West End Village Show*

### \***Book Stall:**

In order to run the stall, we need books! Simon and Jayne at Waldeck Cottage, 36 West End Lane have kindly offered to store books which can be dropped off from 22<sup>nd</sup> August by prior arrangement. Please contact Jayne: [jayne@the-pcc.com](mailto:jayne@the-pcc.com) / 07780 955589. Pre-loved children's toys stall: If you have any TOYS you would like to donate, please bring these along to the marquee on Friday afternoon 25<sup>th</sup> August or to the stall on Show day.

*Photos: Angela Stockbridge*



### BON VOYAGE!

PAUL FERNANDES (rear centre in the red top) is heading off to Sydney, Australia to start a 3 year contract working for a tech firm. A 'farewell' gathering of friends was held at the Club on Monday 26th June to wish him well for his onward journey. Paul's wife Katie will

be following in early September. We wish them both every happiness in their new life down under. Their son Jack is happy to remain in the UK to complete his University studies. We look forward to hearing their news from time to time and will keep you updated in the Village News!

*Photo: Angela Stockbridge*

GARDEN CENTRE • FARM SHOP • BEVAN'S BUTCHERS • THE ORANGERY TEA HOUSE • PICK YOUR OWN

# GARSON FARM

EST. 1871

## PICK YOUR OWN

*Garsons*

www.garsons.co.uk  
Winterdown Road, Esher, Surrey KT10 8LS

PYO ENTRY BY PRE-BOOKED FARM PASS ONLY. BOOK ONLINE AT [WWW.GARSONS.CO.UK](http://WWW.GARSONS.CO.UK)

### IMPORTANT PLEASE READ.....

Call 999 for Emergencies only.

Call 0800 555111 for Crimestoppers.

**Call 101 - Surrey Police for General Enquiries and non-urgent matters.**



This number will also transfer you to Esher Police Station, which is open from 09.00-17.00 hours Monday to Friday.

Sgt 40706 Kelly Orson will temporarily cover Esher PC 3435 Ian Hallam is the local Esher Officer

Officers can be contacted by dialling 101 or email:

**Please note the email address has changed for the Elmbridge Policing Team to: [elmbridge@surrey.police.uk](mailto:elmbridge@surrey.police.uk)**

Contact for **Neighbourhood Watch** is now:

<http://elmbridgenhw.ourwatch.org.uk/>

Please report suspicious incidents via 101, or in an emergency 999.

You can also contact Surrey Police online:

**<https://www.surrey.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us/>  
Or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SurreyPolice>  
& Twitter**

### IN THE KNOW—SURREY & SUSSEX

- ◆ Keep all windows securely locked at all times and once again please remove all valuable from cars when parked. Car thefts continue in the area.
- ◆ Suspicious emails: Almost 21m reports have been made to SERS (Suspicious Email Reporting Service) resulting in the removal of 235 malicious websites. Mobile phone providers also offer a service which allows customers to report suspicious text messages by forwarding them to the number 7726.
- ◆ Be observant and keep a lookout for drive-by moped riders who are deliberately targeting drivers to cause traffic accidents in order to make fraudulent insurance claims.
- ◆ Beware of Courier fraud—this is on the increase too!



## WINTERDOWN WI



We started the month with a bang, enjoying a Summer Garden Party and celebrating 52 years since the Winterdown WI was set up. Thank you to Margaret Dane who opened her garden to members who were able to sit and relax enjoying the buffet meal and a drink as the sun set. Margaret was given a beautiful hybrid tea rose, "Nostalgia", with cherry red and white petals to plant in her garden as a token of our appreciation and thanks. Such a beautiful day and wonderful garden.

A couple of weeks later the members enjoyed a coach trip to West Sussex, first stopping off at The Fox Goes Free pub in Charlton for a coffee break. This is where the first WI meeting took place in England in 1915.

For many women this was the first time they had ever set foot in a pub. The meeting took place in a back room in the pub. Finding a place to meet was not easy as the village hall was for men only.



The Singleton and East Dean Women's Institute continued to meet at the pub for many years until some of the younger members wanted to dance and the brick floors were too uneven, so the WI moved to the Horse and Groom pub in Singleton. It was an interesting experience as there were many artifacts on the walls relating to this first WI meeting and its history.



We then visited West Dean Gardens which was not far away with its clever use of the beautiful surrounding landscape merging into the gardens. The well-kept greenhouses were resplendent with their colourful exotic plants. We then walked around the walled garden with its Apple store. The weather was hot so parasols to the ready!

We are all looking forward to our next adventure!

**So come and join us!**

Our next talk at our members' meeting is on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July - **Running Faulty Towers-** given by Susan Howe.

We meet on a monthly basis on the first Thursday of the month at 7.45pm to start at 8pm in the West End Village Hall, West End Lane, Esher, Surrey, KT10 8LF. **To join our WI just come along to one of our monthly meetings or just contact us by E-Mail at [christine.winterdownwi@gmail.com](mailto:christine.winterdownwi@gmail.com)**  
Christine Grove Secretary



## MEMORIES OF NATIONAL SERVICE

By Don Tyzack



I have been an ardent follower of Michael Portillo's rail journeys and found them most informative. However his recent entry into the National Service and Call-up Field is something which differs from my experience. He dwelt so much on boot cleaning, drilling on the square and rifle cleaning.

My first couple of months was like his but it did include a corporal making me cut grass with scissors, as was otherwise his! I was sent first to Honiton where I joined a new platoon of 22 who filled our assigned otherwise empty hut. The first surprise was when the fortnight previous platoon raided our new hut to empty all the dustbins on our beds and such similar upsets. Apparently this was the normal procedure which the staff were not supposed to know anything about! Our hut had to be spick and span for morning inspection.

I was lucky because my degree qualified me to be selected for officer training.

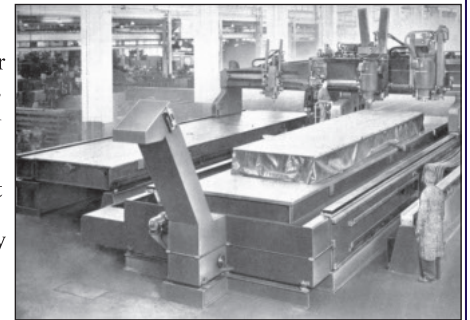
That meant being drafted to Eaton Hall in Chester for training. This was a marvellous place. Some of the walls displayed actual Old Masters which had been left in place.

As an engineer I was put in REME, but we were mixed with persons from all walks of life and including other countries. For example on one occasion as I and an African guy were subjected to a minor punishment, he said, "If we were in my country my father would have him trampled by elephants for that."

We often had to go out at night into the countryside with live ammunition, where previous groups had practised with shells that left big holes filled with water. Trawsfinid was nearby where a power station was subsequently built.

When returning to platoon hut no live ammunition was permitted but on one occasion our North Ireland teammate suddenly yelled, "Aw,- Still got one!" He crazily pulled the lid from the wood burning stove and threw the bullet in the fire. Everyone in the hut fell flat on the floor, but thankfully no one was hit! So this was the army training square-bashing and rifle cleaning which Michael Portillo referred to as his National Service.

At the end of that session I was posted to Arbourfield, and still now had twenty months left to serve. When I got there I was put on an electronics course for three months and they soon noticed that I knew something about the subject. So soon after that I was put on a radar course that also proved useful and then after that, and most useful to me, was a four month course on servo mechanisms which later proved beneficial, as because the guy who taught it knew his subject. Not only that, but I left the army for a job designing servo mechanisms owned by an American company which made machines with beds 100ft long to be used for milling Bomber wings out of solid metal.

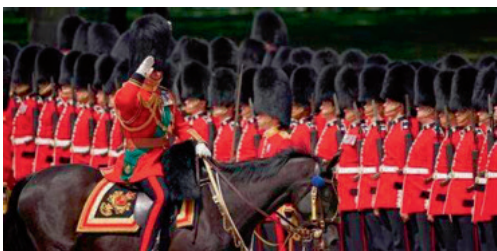


Above: The Cincinnati gantry type skin-milling machine equipped with two cutting heads and tilting fixture support table.

However, my National Service served me well yet again because now with another twelve months to go the Army was trying to get me to stay in because they were so short of persons with electronics knowledge. My then boss said, "we are short of an instructor for teaching all out Armament Artificers in Electronics." They gave me the post. It gets better! After two months they found that they were not allowed to give me the post without giving me the rank and the salary. This included the marriage allowance too! It probably helped that I had been teaching Industrial Electronics at evening classes for two years before joining. My commanding officer found that a new post had just been created for a Lieutenant Colonel and told me about it. Anyway that did not help, but I did leave the Army with the rank of Captain in National Serve. So all this stuff from Michael Portillo about cleaning rifles and going overseas to recover bits of the old empire we had lost was just miles away from my reality.



## TROOPING THE COLOUR Saturday 17th June



For the first time in three decades King Charles III revived a royal tradition by riding on horseback during the ceremony, to mark his official birthday, flanked by royal colonels, his son Prince William, his youngest brother Edward and sister Princess Anne. The colour, or regimental flag, trooped in the ceremony belongs to the 1st Battalion Welsh Guards. The flypast consisted of 70 aircraft including the Hercules C-130s on their last ceremonial flight. Eighteen Tyoons formed the shape of “CR” standing for Charles-Rex whilst the Royal Family looked on from the Balcony of Buckingham Palace.

*Angela Stockbridge*

## ESHER GREEN BAPTIST CHURCH



Hi there fellow West Enders,

Ryan here from Winterdown Road and Pastor of Esher Green Baptist Church.

Here is an update on some things that you may be interested in over the coming months. So here we go:

**Bereavement Café (in partnership with Princess Alice Hospice – 4th Tuesday of the month, 11am to 12.30pm)** – Losing someone you love can turn your world upside down, talking about it can really help. Everyone’s experience of grief is personal and Bereavement Café is a place to connect and share with other people who have experienced their own loss. It is a place to talk about the pain of loss and find mutual support and encouragement. The Café is not a form of counselling, but about connecting with other people who will listen, appreciate and respect your story.

**Debt Help - Christians Against Poverty (CAP)** – CAP is a national debt counselling charity with a network of debt centres based in local churches. CAP offers hope and a solution to people in debt through its top quality, in-depth *free* service. We have partnered with CAP over the last 5 years to offer free debt counselling in Elmbridge. If you are feeling weighed down by debt, then we can help. Call 0800 328 0006 to find out more and to book an appointment.

**Kids Film Club (2nd Saturday of each month 2.30pm)** – Enjoy a family fun afternoon at our kids film club every month at 2.30pm. The best kid’s films shown on our cinema size screen (4m screen and full surround sound), popcorn, snacks and drinks all free! The films shown are suitable for children ages 4 to 11, although we also provide a safe place for babies to play while their older siblings watch the movie. We have baby-changing facilities available. To find out what films are showing pick up a leaflet from the church or email [films@esherchurch.org](mailto:films@esherchurch.org)

Our weekly Sunday morning service starts at 10.00am with great activities for children and youth, we would love to welcome you! Please also visit our YouTube channel for our online service every Sunday at 4pm. For more information on these and other activities please check out our website [-www.esherchurch.org](http://www.esherchurch.org)

Every blessing to you all and I look forward to seeing you around our lovely village.

Ryan (Pastor – Esher Green Baptist Church)  
Esher Green Baptist Church, 6 Park Road, Esher, KT10 8NP



## ESHER FRENCH CIRCLE celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> Birthday



### Esher’s Côte restaurant turns even more French for an evening of celebration

“Bleu, blanc, rouge” – the colours of the French Tricolor – provided the visual theme for Esher French Circle’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala dinner on May 17. And the “pièce de resistance” was the three-tier cake, topped off with a model of the Eiffel Tower.

A group of around 70 enthusiastic Francophiles took over Esher’s Côte restaurant for an evening of French gastronomy, lively conversation (often in Français) and musical entertainment. New and long-standing members came from not only Esher but also the surrounding area - Reigate, Claygate, Walton-on-Thames, Cobham and Ashted. Special guests included representatives from other French circles, some as far away as Eastbourne and Nottingham, as well as local media, including Brian Cox, editor of Oxshott Magazine, and Angela Stockbridge, editor of West End Village News.



Most of the organising was done by long-serving committee members Annie Keane (who lives in Esher) and Brigitte Tiller, (Oxshott). Committee member Peter Prowse provided the musical

entertainment, playing the guitar and singing some well-known French songs, with enthusiastic audience participation.

The Cercle Français d'Esher was set up in 1973 by Mrs Josée Gray-Forton to promote study of the French language and literature and to give its members the opportunity of speaking French and of meeting French residents and Francophiles. Monthly talks are given in French by specialist speakers, on a range of topics – French art, current affairs, music, gastronomy, history... Refreshments are provided and there is time for conversation before the talk starts.

The Circle meets on the third Wednesday of most months, in West End Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm. After its summer break (no meetings in July, August or September), the circle starts its 2023-24 programme on Wednesday 18 October 2023.



More information and an up-to-date programme are on the Circle’s website: [www.cerclefrancais-esher.uk](http://www.cerclefrancais-esher.uk)  
Media enquiries: Peter Prowse  
Email: [peter.prowse@waylines.co.uk](mailto:peter.prowse@waylines.co.uk)



Article: Peter Prowse  
Photos: Keerthi Gallapatti



**WEST END SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB**



PLEASE VISIT THE WESSC WEBSITE FOR THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS [www.WESSC.org](http://www.WESSC.org)

**THE SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB SPECIAL**



Esher & District RPC



**WEST END GOLF SOCIETY**



Anyone wishing to join the WEGS can call

Dave Morgan on 07956 129987 or Allistar Goff on 07958 221566

**NEWS FROM THE BAR! HE'S BACK!**

Richard Jenkins, returned to the West End Sports and Social Club as Bar Manager on 15th June and celebrated his birthday with members of the club. His daughter, Alice, made a delicious birthday cake which he shared with Avril Poat, a regular supporter of the club, who had not had an opportunity to celebrate her birthday earlier in April or her 'special' 80th birthday during Lockdown. However, Richard kindly cut his cake in half and shared it with her! The clubhouse was packed with members celebrating the occasion and everyone sang 'Happy Birthday' to them.

Avril thought it was a lovely gesture on Richard's part. She thanked him for his generosity and is pleased to see him back where he belongs! *Photo: Rosie Master*



The clubhouse bar, decorated for the Coronation! *Photos: Angela Stockbridge*

**WEST END SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB NEWS**

The AGM of the West End Sports & Social Club (WESSC) was held on Monday 19th June. The meeting heralded in the appointment of joint Chairmen for the first time with David Parcell and Aidan Baker taking the helm. They were joined by Lee Dellar who once again takes on the post of Treasurer, and Michael Koops as Chairman of Trustees, The Oakley Institute. Following many successful years as President, Allen Palmer has stepped down and handed the baton to Angela Stockbridge.

The interim Management Committee (IMC) formally appointed by the Trustees at last years EGM in early December stepped down from their role having made the necessary changes required to return the club to sustained profitability.

During the period the IMC were running the club they reengaged Richard Jenkins as bar manager who looks forward to continuing what looks like being a record summer.

The new management committee have already met and formulated a prioritised list of actions to be undertaken in the coming months. Near the top of that list is the promised refurbishment of the club made possible by the successful auction earlier in the year. The money was ring fenced and the new team aim to have it completed by October, ready for Winter.

In accordance with the recommendations of the IMC which were adopted at the AGM the team has now appointed a bookkeeper and so we welcome local resident Michelle Clarke who will be commencing her duties from 1st July.

The Club does have some requests for help from members or the local community. The Club needs some HR/Welfare help and both the Club and the Oakley Institute need someone with legal or paralegal knowledge. Neither roles are onerous in terms of time and offers of help would be very much appreciated. In the first instance please email. [chair@weessc.org](mailto:chair@weessc.org)  
*Adam Brenner, former IMC member*



The annual Walton and Hershham Summer Football Tournament took place at Walton Arena over the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> July. Having lost in the final last year, AFC Westend's U11 team went one better and won their age group.



Congratulations to Adam Anis, Alex Kehoe, Elliott Harris, Etienne Victor, George Garrett, Jacob Legge, Rory Donald and Samuel Ashplant"

AFC Westend will be looking to start teams for younger age groups next season.

*Alistair Donald M: 07780 708763*



Esher & District RPC

**ESHER & DISTRICT RACING PIGEON CLUB**

As some of you may be aware our 2023 season did not get off to the best of starts following the sad passing of our Club Secretary and friend Mike Charlton. He was an excellent administrator for our club and more importantly will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Michael's death has galvanised the membership who have shown great camaraderie. Mike would be proud of the way the club is moving on. May he rest in peace.

We will report on the Season's events in the next issue.

*Paul Arnold*





### WEST END CELEBRATES KING CHARLES III'S CORONATION WITH A PICNIC ON THE GREEN



Above: Helen Hambleton's home-made Coronation Cake beautifully decorated with a replica of St. Edwards's Crown in Fruit



### WEST END MOTOR CLUB

In April, twelve Motor Club members enjoyed a trip to Oxford, not to the Bodleian Library or the University but to tour the BMW owned Mini production factory at nearby Cowley, the historical home of Morris and MG cars. Our friendly and informative guide took us to different assembly lines across the vast 5 acre site that produce an incredible one thousand Mini vehicles every day! No wonder that it was about 20 minutes before we saw a human operative, so huge are the masses of robots performing their precision operations so rapidly.



In June we descended on the lovely Crown Inn, Capel, some 6 miles south of Dorking, for a splendid lunch served Al fresco on the garden terrace. Wives and partners made up our 25 people arriving in 10 wonderful classic cars.



Our first dilemma was choosing which of the 5 locally brewed real ales to quench our thirst! Pub hosts Vanda, Vicky and chef Donna served delicious home cooked meals and the relaxing surroundings were enjoyed by all. Special thanks go to our Richard Eves for arranging this delightful outing. Do try this pub yourselves, an enjoyable lunch guaranteed! A final report that all classic cars and occupants arrived home safely!

So ( I'll begin with 'so' as it seems to be the fashion for all communication these days), now that we have had our June hot summer, we petrol heads are looking forward to our return to the village green at the West End Sports and Flower Shows Association's August Bank Holiday Saturday extravaganza, known as the West End Village Show.

Before the plague, the West End Motor Club contributed a bi-ennial display of classic cars and machines to the Show. Covid made a hash of that as it did with most others things, but as things change the more they stay the same, this year we hope to provide new things to see and some special photo-opportunities at our display site outside the pub end of the big marquee on August 26<sup>th</sup>. Entry to the display will be as usual a minimum of £1 or whatever larger donation you may wish to make in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, to add to the £25,000 plus we have raised over the past years. Hope to see you there.

Over the past months we have enjoyed weekly Tuesday morning brunch meetings at the Prince of Wales but with the premises refurbishment under way new locations are being trialled. We may elect to roam our beautiful county choosing different weekly locations or possible settle in a new permanent hostelry.



Contact Ken on 07973 283695 to keep in touch. A few of us also meet every Thursday evening at the Village Social Club from 7.30. All enthusiasts welcome for a natter over a pint of Richard's finest ale!

*Text and photos by David Rolfe, Ken Berry and Geoff Inman*

Left: Thanks to everyone who joined in the Coronation celebration picnic on the green. It was great fun and families even played rounders! Thanks to the bar staff who worked tirelessly throughout the afternoon and to the Club's Social Committee, Katie and Ruth, who organised the event.

*Photos: Angela Stockbridge*





## WEST END BRIDGE CLUB

We are a small club which meets every Tuesday afternoon in the Village Hall.

We play friendly bridge and new members are very welcome.

We are not too competitive and members enjoy a pleasant afternoon with like-minded people.

Anyone interested requiring more information should contact Sandra Elms on 01372 466433

## West End Village Hall



Ideal for children's parties, meetings, functions and family occasions.  
Adult parties strictly for Village Residents only by special arrangement.

### TO BOOK

Visit: [wevh.org](http://wevh.org) or [wevh.uk](http://wevh.uk)  
Mail: [hirehall@wevh.uk](mailto:hirehall@wevh.uk)



### Bespoke Catering Of Formal & Informal Events

- WEDDINGS
- MEMORIALS
- CELEBRATION PARTIES
- CHRISTENINGS
- CORPORATE EVENTS
- HOUSE WARMING PARTIES
- THEMED PARTIES
- SMALL PRIVATE FUNCTIONS
- DISHES AND PLATTERS

ELIZABETH TRELIVING

HOME COOKING BY ELIZABETH

The Showroom 1 Church Road Great Bookham KT23 3PD

T: 01372 453206 M: 07712 760175 E: [etreliving@aol.com](mailto:etreliving@aol.com)  
Or visit our website [www.homecookingdirect.co.uk](http://www.homecookingdirect.co.uk)

## FRIENDS OF THE VILLAGE NEWS

We would like to thank the following 'Friends' of the Village News for their generous donations:

Peter & Naomi Bedford  
Ken Berry  
Margaret Dane  
Gerry Dowling  
Donald & Sandra Elms  
Mr & Mrs R,V, King  
Rob Lowe  
A J & B Maddows  
Malcolm and Kay Parsons  
Eileen Pocklington  
Mike Purchase  
Derek Richardson  
David Rolfe  
Denis Roux  
J & J Stadius  
Angela Stockbridge  
and also donors  
who wish to remain anonymous.  
If you would like to become a Friend please contact our Treasurer:  
[derek.richardson@garsons.co.uk](mailto:derek.richardson@garsons.co.uk)

## THE VILLAGE NEWS TEAM

We also thank our Village News team of volunteers who regularly help to collate, proof read and distribute the 850 copies of the newsletter to every household in West End and Esher. Your help is very much appreciated.

Sheila Apicella  
Alice Austin  
Aidan Baker  
Peter & Naomi Bedford  
Lynn Bezzant  
David Bramley  
Margaret Dane,  
Don Elms  
David Ford  
Tricia Fox,  
Doug & Sue Fryer  
Di Gibson,  
Sue Graham  
Andrea Lindow  
Rob Lowe  
Roger Marsden  
Rosie Master  
Margaret Mazzina  
Rosalind Moysen  
Donald Mungall  
Avril Poat  
Nik & Judi Wilkinson  
Bridget Williams

Treasurer: Derek Richardson  
Auditor: Peter Heath  
Editor: Angela Stockbridge



## WEST END SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

### THE CLUB CAFÉ

#### Opening Hours:

**Saturday and Sunday mornings  
10.00am - 1.00pm  
for coffee and a muffin or flapjack.**



### VILLAGE NEWS WEST END

*Please make a diary note of the copy dates for the next three editions*

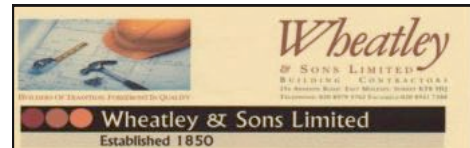
**AUTUMN: Friday 1st September by 1pm**

**WINTER (CHRISTMAS): Friday 17th November by 1pm**

Please contact Angela Stockbridge  
Email: [angelastockbridge1115@gmail.com](mailto:angelastockbridge1115@gmail.com)  
07817 498531 or 01372 460703

The Village News is supported by local organisations including: West End Sports & Social Club, West End Motor Club, the West End Village Show Committee, Garsons, Winterdown WI, the late Richard Gale, West End Village Hall Committee, the former West End Residents' Association, Advertisers and personal donations. Please note the newsletter can also be found on Garsons website [www.garsons.com](http://www.garsons.com) Community Page, [www.AFC Westend website](http://www.AFCWestend.com) and the West End Facebook Group.  
Printed by Impress Print Services, Hershams.

**We thank you all for your continued support.**



ESTABLISHED 1850. Telephone - 020 8979 5762  
BRIDGE ROAD, EAST MOLESEY,  
and HIGH STREET, ESHER.  
**WHEATLEY & SONS,**  
(Successors to J. Wheatley & Sons, Ltd.)  
**Builders, Contractors,  
& House Decorators.**  
GAS, HOT WATER and SANITARY ENGINEERS,  
PLUMBERS, GLAZIERS, and BELL HANGERS.  
Jobbing Work of every description with Bricklayers, Plasterers,  
Carpenters, Cabinet Makers, Painters, Paperhangers, Glaziers,  
Gilders, Plumbers, Gas and Bellfitters, Tinsmiths, Smiths, &c.  
Carpets taken up, Beaten and Relaid. Stoves and  
Ranges Supplied and Set. Boilers Cleaned. Kitchen  
Fittings Refitted.  
HOUSE DRAINAGE & VENTILATION A SPECIALTY.  
DRAIN TESTS AND REPORTS.  
PLANS prepared and advice given upon all matters  
connected with New Buildings, Additions, Alterations  
and Repairs.  
FUNERALS FURNISHED in best style and conducted  
to any part of the country. Cremations arranged.  
Monuments, Brasses, Memorial Windows &c.  
HOUSE & ESTATE AGENTS. FIRE & LIFE ASSURANCE.  
RENTS COLLECTED. VALUATIONS FOR ALL PURPOSES.

**NO JOB TOO SMALL**  
Telephone 020 8979 5762  
Fax: 020 8941 7388  
Email:  
[wheatley\\_sons@btconnect.com](mailto:wheatley_sons@btconnect.com)